

Encyclopaedia of India

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

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PART I



G.B. Singh

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Vol. VIII (J & K)

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RIMA PUBLISHING HOUSE
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General Editor's Note

India has made tremendous progress in almost every field since the attainment of independence. Her advancement is all round and stupendous, her record in the creative activities, in the realms of education, science and arts, is remarkable. Surprisingly enough, there is no standard, internationally reputed and readable Encyclopaedia reflecting or interpreting this change or giving a full spectrum of knowledge or reference material for lay readers or experts. Wellknown international Encyclopaedias of developed countries are woefully deficient in respect of facts about this fast developing and changing India. The current Encyclopaedias produced in Indian languages betray divergence in professional scope, quality and format.

The need for such a work had been felt for a long time. In fact, I endeavoured to take up this project about 20 years ago and approached the leading industrialists in the country for financial support, but unfortunately there was no positive response. To fill in this lacuna *India--An Encyclopaedic Survey* and A two-volume *Encyclopaedia of India* in alphabetical order was brought out. However, it was not a very exhaustive work and, therefore, to meet the growing demand from scholars and the public at large, this pioneering work was attempted. It is not an Encyclopaedia in alphabetical order, but 32 volumes have been prepared covering all the states and union territories which deal with all the aspects of the life and conditions, physical, historical, economic, social and cultural, places of interest, etc. of that particular region. There is hardly any aspect which has not been covered in these series and is, therefore, an invaluable work which will serve as a source of reference to the scholars as well as those interested in the country as whole or its various constituents. Wellknown scholars who have specialised on a particular region were requested to write on area of their interest which has thus made this work authoritative. Shri Surinder Singh Sethi, proprietor of Rima Publishing House, deserves to be congratulated for undertaking this work, the first of its kind in India.

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I

GENERAL

JAMMU REGION — IN TRODUCTION - TOPOGRAPHY RIVERS--CLIMATE - MINERAL AND PLANT LIFE

The personality of Jammu region cannot be appreciated fully well without a reference to the State of Jammu and Kashmir of which it forms an administrative division. Comprising of six districts and lying south of the Pir Panjal mountainous range.

The State of Jammu and Kashmir is strategically located with a prominent and distinctive geographical individuality. The State shares its borders with China in the east and in the west the line of actual control along international borders separates it from Pakistan. On the north lies the Tibetan Plateau while in the north-west its borders meet with the borders of Afghanistan. On the northern side the valley of Ab-e-Panja, the Panhandle (Wakhan) of Afghanistan intervenes between the borders of Jammu and Kashmir and the Soviet Union. Towards the south lie the plains of east (Indian) and the west (Pakistani) Punjab and towards south-east the state shares its border with another Indian state -- the Himachal Pradesh.

Latitudinally the state is situated far beyond the tropical zone of the country. If we compare the latitudes of Jammu and Kashmir with Arunachal Pradesh we find that the highest latitude of the Arunachal is 29° - 30° north while the lowest latitude of Jammu and Kashmir State is 32° - $17'N$. Other areas latitudinally corresponding to the State are Peshawar, Baghdad, Damascus, Ferozepur and North Carolina. Longitudinally the state lies between 73° $26'E$ and 80° - $30'$ east.

The total area of Jammu and Kashmir State is 2,22,800 sq. Kilometres. Out of this area 83,208 sq. km. (37.61%) are presently under illegal occupation of Pakistan. The area of the state illegally grabbed by Pakistan includes the parts of Poonch, Mirpur and the Muzaffargarh districts viz.: Haveli, Bag, Mendhar, Rawalakot, Pindri, Karnat and Uri. As a result of the Sino-Indian War of 1962 China occupied another 41,500 sq. kms. (18.62%) area of the state in the north east. Thus more than half (56.23%) of

the total area at present is under illegal possession of Pakistan and China.

The Jammu and Kashmir is essentially a hilly and mountainous state. The maximum distance from north to south 640 kms while from east to west state extends for 480 kms. Starting from the plains of Punjab, we encounter first the Siwaliks and the outer hills then the middle Himalayas with their vegetative cover appear. After crossing the Pir Panjal we come across the beautiful Valley of Kashmir which is surrounded by lofty mountains. These mountains contain numerous large longitudinal valleys and passes, facilitating transportation which otherwise is very difficult in this mountainous part of the country. It was through these passes that the cultural and commercial ties were maintained between India and Central Asia during ancient times. Notable among these passes are Karakoram pass (5575 metres) in Ladakh and Burzil pass (4173 metres) in Chilas. Lahasa is linked with the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir by Lanak La (5486 metres), the latter is linked with the valley by the Zozi La pass (3529 metres).

Thus we see that nature has divided the state into three very distinctive physical units each separated from the another by a prominent mountain range. We can clearly discern three more or less such parallel ranges which divide the state, as mentioned in the foregoing times, into as many physical divisions. The beautiful Val-

ley of Kashmir is separated from the Jammu region by the famous Pir Panjal range which is an extension of the famous Dhauladhar range of the Himachal Pradesh. The inner Himalayan ranges separate the Kashmir Valley from the Ladakh Province. The chief characteristics of these ranges are that they form a steep slopes towards the south while they are gentler towards the south. Besides these three divisions a narrow strip of almost level land continuing from Sialkot and Gurdaspur districts of undivided Punjab form a well distinguished physical unit of the Jammu region known commonly as outer plains due to their ruggedness, high temperature and little annual rainfall are known locally as 'Kandi'.

In the light of the foregoing discussion we can conclude that man has very intelligently accepted the verdict of the nature by dividing the State into three different administrative units corresponding to the three distinct physical units. The region lying south of the Pir Panjal is the Jammu region, to the north of it is the Kashmir Valley which again separated from the Ladakh region by the inner Himalayan ranges like the Zaskar range. These three regions form the three administrative divisions of the Jammu, Kashmir and the Ladakh province. Our discussion in the next pages would be limited only to the Jammu region which from the administrative point of view is known as Jammu Province.

Topography

The Jammu region can be divided into three physical units, viz., the outer plains, the outer-hills north Siwaliks or the outer Himalayas and the middle Himalayas. As we shall see latter each one of these divisions not only differ in their physical characteristics but possesses distinct social and cultural identity as well. These three divisions are individually dealt as under:

The Outer Plains

The narrow strip of plain is a continuation of the Punjab plains. The plain lie between river Ravi on the east and river Chenab in the west with further extension in part of Jammu and Kashmir state toward the north of these plains lie low hilly areas which are sparsely wooded and irregularly broken. The average height of these plain is between 305 and 366 metres above the mean sea level. They are broken by tributaries of the Chenab and the river Ravi. The general slope of the plain is towards south-west. Denudation and erosion have played a great role in the modifications of topographical features in this region. Carving out of depression by sub-aerial denudation is common. Broad longitudinal valleys from a conspicuous feature of the topography of this region. It is in this region that we find an area called 'kandi' which varies in width from 6.4 to 42 kms. and extends from Ravi to Jhelum which received very low rainfall but possess a rich old alluvium. Until recently this area used to suffer from a serious shortage of drinking water. This

drawback has now largely been removed by the State Government which has sunk a large number of tubewells and dug-wells. These wells not only supply water for drinking but have even made some water available for irrigation. For those parts of the area not yet covered by this scheme, the P.H.E. (Public Health Engineering) Department makes adequate arrangements for providing at least drinking water. Many other programmes specially of soil conservation and stream bed management have also been initiated and have begun to show results. Two important canals one from river Ravi and other from river Tawi have been constructed to provide irrigation facilities in this region. The Kathua (Canal) takes off from river Ravi to irrigate many areas of the Kathua district while the Tawi canal provides water for irrigating Jammu and Samba Tehsils of Jammu districts by lifting water from river Tawi near the historical Bahu fort.

Outer plains are full of small streams which carry off the flood waters in the rainy season. Important streams lying between Ravi in the east and the Chenab in the west are the Ujh and the Tawi. Both rivers are perennial but the volume of the water varies greatly from season to season. Although they rise at an elevation of 3936 and 4263 metres respectively above sea level their sources do not lie on perpetually snow bound mountains. Tawi flows for about 128 kms before it enters the plains near Jammu.

city. While Ujh joins the plains near Jasrota after flowing about 80 kms. These rivers are subjected to floods both in summers and winters River Ujh, which has comparatively steeper bed, carries much bigger boulders than the river Tawi. They may be as big as 61-92 cms. in diameter.

Only 32 kms. west of river Tawi we come across the Chenab, a bigger river of which former is a tributary. River Chenab is of large volume and debouches on the plains near the town of Akhnoor up to this point the stream is almost unnavigable because of many rapids. But from Akhnoor onwards down to the sea it becomes navigable. the country to the west of Chenab is no different from the country to the east of it. The same plain occur with small depression making way for many streams which mostly remain dry except in rainy seasons. Plains are cut by ravines. To the west of Chenab another important stream flows which rises from Ratan Range behind Rajouri and joins waters of Chenab in the plains. This stream is known as Munawar Tawi. The beds of all these rivers, i.e., Ujh, Tawi and Munawar tawi etc. are full of pebbles of varing sizes and boulders. The average annual rainfall is nearly 762mm. While maximum temperature sometimes reaches 46°C. As we move towards north, the altitude rises and stream beds become narrow and some villages thriving on patches of alluvial soils.

Outer Hills or Siwaliks or Jammu Hills

The outer hills, or Siwaliks as they are know, bear a regular and gentle slope till they reach a height of 600 metre. These hills are formed of young tertiary rocks. They never reach a height of more than 1200 metres. Their width ranges from 22 kms. to 58 kms. with greater extention on the north and norh-west. They abruptly and inwards in steep escarpments as they reach a height of 600 metres. These hills more or less form a wall separating middle Himalayas from the outer plain. In this region numerous small longitudinal valleys known as 'Dun' are found describing these 'Dun' valleys Raina writers "The narrow neck of hills open into small valleys, mostly "Duns" extending longitudinally up to Devsal in the west. The plain is open to erosive action of running water which leaves no land with uniform level. To the north of Dansal Dun a longitudinal valley runs on the opposite side of Ramkot enclosed by the Karai that hills which rise up to 5,000 feet above sea level. It is at Dansal that the river Tawi transverses in a gorge with a steep ascent across the main highway to Kashmir.

The topography of this region may be said to be undulating, with extraordinary rate of deposition. In the west of this region conglomerate, boulders and clays are spread over a vast expanse. This, infact, is the catchment area for the tributaries like Ravi, Tawi

and Chenab, which irrigate a large portion of the Punjab plains (both east and west).

Being a hilly region means of transport are comparatively less developed. Thus the whole region is economically underdeveloped. In the western part of the outer hills a large portion of population consists of Gujjars and Bakkarwal communities. Both these communities are nomadic. The spurs are forested. However, agriculture is practiced throughout this belt depending upon the availability of alluvial patches of land. Besides agriculture, a large number of cattle are reared by Gujjars and Bakkarwals. These communities take their cattle to the grazing grounds higher up in this region or even beyond in the summer months and come down during the winters. In the terraced fields of the area the major crop is the maize although rice is cultivated where fields are irrigated by streams flowing through the area.

Thus we come to the conclusion that the Outer hills rise from the Punjab plains with a gentle slope. Attaining an altitude of about 600 metres they end abruptly inwards in steep escarpments. Then follows a succession of narrow parallel ridges....The outer are formed of younger tertiary rocks and their elevation rarely exceeds 1200 metres. The ranges situated more inwards and formed of older tertiary rocks attain higher altitudes ranging from 1800 to 2400 metres.

Middle Mountains

The middle Himalayan ranges start from 13 to 16 kms. north of Basoli and run along Ramnagar, Riasi and Rajouri. On the north the middle mountains are bounded by two lofty ranges: Pir Panjal range beyond which lies the Valley of Kashmir and a range which comes from the south east direction and end at Kishtawar. In between these two numerous other ranges lie which rise between 3657 metres and 4572 metres above sea level. In the east the region is 64 kms. wide but it gradually narrows down as we move towards the west. Deep ravines have developed in this region due to severe erosion to which the topography has been subjected. "The ranges do not have any regular plan of directions and have a high tendency of bifurcating into separate ridges. They also do not show any concordance between the alignment of the hills and the strike of the component beds." Nearly twelve peaks exceed 3500 metres in elevation. Three important passes from the region with Kashmir valley. These are: Pir Panjal pass (3494)? Bundil Pir pass (4200 metres) and Banihal pass (2832 metres).

Geologically these mountains are not similar to the outer hills. "The mountains have a orthoclinical structure. The ranges are composed of highly compressed rocks of different geological periods." Similarly Drew records: "looking from the geological point of view we may say that there

is not the same correspondence between the direction of ridges and strikes of the beds as there is among the outer hills." Thus the middle mountains are ridges of varying and irregular direction which branch off again and again and are intersected by deep gorges carved out by rivers that flow through them. Deep cut ravines are numerous. Upper course of river Chenab and its tributaries in this region along with many more other streams with their own local names. These rivers are perennial and are fed by the snow that falls on these high mountains. River Chenab is one of the biggest rivers of this region. It enters the State of Jammu and Kashmir from Himachal Pradesh near Padar at an elevation of 1829 metres above sea level. It flows through many rapids throughout this region. An eleven metre fall in the gradient of the river is recorded from Tandi to Kishtawar. The river, as has already been pointed out, joins the plains at Akhanoor after flowing southward from Kishtawar through Doda Ramban and Reasi.

Looking at the height to which the middle mountains reach, it is not difficult to conclude that this region belongs to a temperate type of climate on the slopes of the mountains the terraced fields are cultivated to raise crops like maize and pulses, on the one hand and rice on the other where these fields can be irrigated. Sometimes wheat, barley and even mustard seed are also raised here. The temperate climate is also responsible for luxuriant vegetative cover of the

middle mountains. In the summer months the monsoon winds are capable of giving rainfall south of Pir Panjal range but fail to cross this range and do not bring rainfall to the Kashmir valley except when these winds are exceptionally strong. In winters precipitation either in the form of snow or rain comes mediterranean sea region.

In the Jammu region some small but beautiful valleys are located which deserve special mention. Important among these are the Bhaderwah, Kishtawar, Ramban, Padar and Reasi valleys. Bhaderwah is, by far, the most important of these valleys. It is about 1.6 km. wide and about six km. long. Its bottom is inclined at an angle of about 3°. It is situated at an height of about 1646 m. above sea level. The Neru, a tributary of Chenab river, flows through it. The Nera rises partly from 'Kapas kunds' situated at an elevation of 4115 m. above sea level and partly from Chhatardhar-Padri ranges. This is a little fertile valley surrounded by meadows on the ridges with majestic Chhatardhar rising above it and lending exceptional grandeur to this valley. It is perhaps due to those peculiarities coupled with the climate identical to the Kashmir valley that Bhaderwah valley is commonly referred to as 'Chota Kashmir' (Little Kashmir).

There are numerous smaller tributary valleys to the main Bhaderwah valley. Chirals valley running almost parallel to the Bhaderwah valleys is

one such example. Jai is a long narrow valley to the east of Chirals and Neru (Bhaderwah) valleys. It is one of the most beautiful spot which is slightly wider at the top. It forms a park like plain strip. It is through this strip that a beautiful stream of crystal clear waters winds its way. This valley is very near to the town of Bhaderwah. The valley is so beautiful that it can very conveniently be compared to the Gulmarg in Kashmir but unfortunately authorities engaged in the extension of tourism have not been able to cash the scenic beauty of the valley.

There are numerous streams (nallas) flowing approximately from S-E to N-W and join the Chenab dividing the Bhaderwan region into as many as eight drainages separated from one another by a well defined ridges. All this may, however, be treated as an extension of Bhaderwah valley. The eight drainages referred to are the Neru, Chirala, Jungalwar, Jai, Bhalesh, Bunjawa, Guntrer and Padri.

Kishtawar valley more or less an undulating plain is surrounded lofty mountains. From north to south it extends for about 6.5 kms. and is 3 kms. in width from east to west. The valley is situated almost at the same height at which the Bhaderwah valley is. River Chenab flows through this valley. In fact the presence of Chenab is the most conspicuous and beautiful feature of the Kishtawar valley. There seems no remarkable difference between the climate of the

Bhaderwah and the Kishtawar valleys though Kishtawar may be a bit warmer than the Bhaderwah.

The Dul-Husti Hydro-electric Project under construction at Kishtwar has enhanced the importance of the Kishtawar valley in the national context. Accordance of national highway status to the road linking Batote with Kishtawar has further activated the economic pursuits. Beyond Kishtawar is the paddar area famous for rubby stone used in the ornamentation.

Ramban, another beautiful town located on the banks of river Chenab in the middle mountains is situated at a height of nearly 730 metres above sea level. It is a terraced sort of valley with the mountains boldly rising on either side of the river Chenab. The river flows in a narrow gorge with sufficient depth. The whole area of middle mountains is full of small but beautiful valleys of varying dimensions, Ramban being one of them and behind it "... is a very distinct ridge, continuing for 15 miles at an average height of 9,000 or 10,000 feet. From this ridge a succession of spurs come down to the river, separated by valleys which are little more than a mile distant from one another; at their mouths small tracts of land are terraced and often irrigated. The spursides are steep, but seldom rocky; the greater part of their surface is covered with herbage; some also is forest, but, from the general south aspect not a great proportion; it is only where side slopes give a more shady

outlook that thick forest can be found, but over a good part of the rest trees and bushes are scattered."

Weather and Climate

The Jammu and Kashmir state is peculiar in many respects. This peculiarity is reflected in its topography and its fauna and flora as we have already observed. This is well maintained in its language culture folklore and the like. Obviously, therefore, the climate of the state in general and Jammu region in particular can be expected to be a type of some unusual kind for it depends upon its latitudinal situation and altitudinal variations from about 300 m to more than 8000 m above mean sea level. This altitudinal variations in an area situated about 10° North of the tropic of cancer can be expected to generate a climate ranging from tropical to temperate and even to alpine type with sufficient degree change in weather conditions during the course of earth's revolution round the sun. Thus in shaping the climate of Jammu and Kashmir the Himalayas play a significant role. They rather act as a major determining factor affecting the different components of climate, particularly the rainfall and temperatures. For example the Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas does not allow the monsoon winds to enter the Valley of Kashmir on the one hand and on the other allow them to rise and dispense with their moisture content in the form of rain. Moreover, the sudden rise of altitude from 300 m to above 8000 m or more given a

considerable fall in the temperatures at higher altitudes, thereby changing the pattern of distribution of temperatures under such varied conditions it is difficult to get, as mentioned earlier, a uniform pattern of climate even for a small area because great local variations caused by the physiography. An attempt is made to understand the variations in the climate and its causes.

In the summer, the westerly jet stream moves to the north of the Himalayas giving way to the easterly jet stream. The easterly jet stream causes the westerly trade winds in the Indian ocean south of equator to move at a greater velocity towards the Indian sub-continent. These winds are the monsoon winds which cause rainfall throughout the sub-continent and reach the outskirts of Jammu hills by almost the first week of July. These winds bring rainfall to the entire outer plain outer hills and even the Middle mountain regions lying south of Pir Panjal range and forming the entire Jammu region. The height of the range compels the winds to rise and give away, whatever, the little moisture they are left with. Udhampur, a town in the outer hills receives 400 mm of rainfall on an average during July and 350 mm in August. The corresponding figures for Basoli lying in the same region are 400 mm and 500 mm. Similarly areas lying in the middle mountains receive much less rainfall from the monsoon winds during the same period. Bhadarwah for instance, receives only 127 mm during July and

106 mm during August (Table 1.1) another station not very far away but lying more in Middle Himalayas than in the Outer hills receives only 282 mm and 101 mm rainfall during the July and August respectively. Interestingly rainfall at the Nowshera, Rajouri and Poonch lying in the outer hill in rather western part of the Jammu region show an erratic trend. As against the normal expectations rainfall should gradually decrease from east to west but the rainfall data annuals all these expectations, A close examination of the Table (1.1) would shows that rainfall recorded at Nowshera during July and August is 363 mm and 291 mm respectively. Rajouri and the Poonch lying to the west of Nowshera normally receive less rainfall than Nowshera but Rajouri get 363 mm and 291 mm of rainfall on an average during July and August while corresponding figures for Poonch are 413 mm and 342 mm. This gradual increase of rainfall as one moves from east to west or north-west is due perhaps to the locations of Rajouri and Poonch stations at comparative higher altitudes than the Nowshera or/and due to the typical situation of these two stations being surrounded by mountain ranges on all the sides.

Rainfall conditions during the winters in northern India in general and Jammu and Kashmir state in particular are influenced by the cyclonic disturbances from the Mediterranean or even beyond from Atlantic ocean, across Iran and

Afghanistan. If the monsoon give less rainfall during the summer months, the deficiency is compensated by these cyclonic winds in the normal year during winter months. Thus the winter precipitations are fairly widespread throughout the Jammu region as well as in the Jammu and Kashmir state as a whole. Since these cyclonic winds approach the state from the west along the Himalayan ranges which offer and substantial resistance, these winds give rainfall and snowfall both to the north and south of the Pir Panjal. However, due to orographic reasons the more precipitation is recorded in the middle mountain region as compared to the outer plain regions during the winter months. But the situation is reversed during the summer months when monsoons cause the rainfall. Bhandarwah which receives 84.76 percent precipitation of the year during the winter season (Oct. & May) receives only 15.23 per cent of it in the summer months (from monsoons) Yet Kathuna which is located in the outer plain region receives 75.44 per cent rainfall from the monsoonic winds in the summer months (June-September) and the rest from the cyclonic winds during the winters. A similar phenomenon is observed in the case of Banihal. Nowshera, Rajouri, Poonch and other stations (Table 1.2) Thus it can be said about the periodic distribution of rainfall in the Jammu regions that the areas lying in the outer plain and Siwalik receive more than two-third of their total rainfall from the monsoons and one third from the

TABLE 1.1
Average Rainfall (monthly) in mm

Months/Stations	Bhaderwah	Billawar	Kathua	Bani	Basoli	Banihal	Nowshera	Rajouri	Poonch
January	103.8	180.83	162.27	132.0	76.09	150.5	106	146.5	91
February	681.31	103.27	93.17	241.0	152.0	223.1	39	115	146
March	245.36	163.85	65.03	127.0	66.0	227.6	106	58	161
April	760.01	68.10	42.80	243.0	62.0	175.9	39	112	100
May	128.09	49.85	31.10	316.0	127.01	125.0	28	48	70
June	43.05	157.68	162.60	90.0	60.02	45.3	19	61	83
July	127.02	586.69	494.83	282.0	569.08	88.3	363	413	421
August	106.09	529.95	583.70	101.0	230.0	59.9	291	342	359
September	102.54	238.15	70.63	224.0	90.0	67.7	123	176	197
October	15.65	42.64	27.46	13.0	N.A.	44.8	54	69	78
November	67.19	37.0	Nil	69.0	N.A.	61.2	58	28	47
December	105.70	113.60	5.03	52.0	N.A.	135.3	88	76	76

TABLE 1.2

Station	Summer rainfall June to September	Percentage of the yearly total	Winter rainfall October to May	Percentage of Yearly total	Total during the year
Bhaderwah	378.7	15.23	2107.1	84.76	2485.8
Billawar	1512.47	56.57	759.85	33.43	2271.61
Kathua	1311.76	75.44	426.86	24.55	1738.62
Bani	697.0	36.87	1193	63.12	1890
Basoli	949.1	66.25	483.09	33.73	1432.19
Banihal	261.2	18.58	1144.3	81.41	1405.5
Nowshera	796	60.67	516	39.32	1812
Poonch	1060	58.01	767	41.98	1827
Rajouri	991	60.27	653	39.72	1644

cyclonic winds while the areas lying in the Middle Himalayan region receive more than 75 per cent of the total precipitation from the cyclonic disturbances and about 25 per cent from the monsoons.

Like rainfall temperatures being greatly dependent upon altitude also vary largely in the Jammu region. The hottest month in Jammu is June which is also the hottest in the entire Jammu region. Nevertheless the variations in the mean monthly temperatures are wide Jammu temperatures may be taken as representative for the entire outer plain and outer hill regions and the temperatures at Banihal can conveniently represent the Middle mountains of the Jammu region for the purpose. A comparison of the Temperatures of these two stations not only reveals the influence of the altitude over the distribution of temperatures

in the region but also indicates as how they are spread over the year (Table 1.4)

A cursory look at these tables show that January is the coldest month in both the regions, i.e., outer plain outerhills and Middle mountains though the difference between actual temperatures is significantly dissimilar. Mean daily maximum temperatures at Jammu for the Month of January is 18.4°C. The corresponding temperatures for Banihal for January are 10.4°C and - 0.7°C. The comparatively low temperatures at Banihal are due to the high altitudinal location. Again June is the hottest month throughout the Jammu region when temperatures reach above 40°C in the outer plains (Jammu) are lowered by altitudinal factor in the Middle Himalayas where they are represented by 28.8°C at Banihal.

TABLE 1.4
Normals of Temperatures in C° for Banihal

Months	Mean daily Max.	Mean density Average	Daily Average
January	10.4	-0.7	4.85
Feb.	11.6	1.3	6.45
March	15.9	5.0	10.45
April	19.8	8.1	13.95
May	24.0	11.0	17.5
June	28.8	14.9	21.8
July	28.3	17.7	23.0
Sept.	27.3	13.6	20.45
Oct.	22.7	7.4	15.05
Nov.	17.2	3.2	10.2
Dec.	11.6	0.2	5.9
Annual	20.5	8.3	

TABLE 1.5

Mean Monthly Relative Humidity of Jammu and Banihal

<i>Months</i>	<i>Mean monthly relative humidity for Jammu</i>	<i>Mean monthly relative humidity for Banihal</i>
Jan.	61.5	58
Feb.	56.0	64.5
March	47.5	57.0
April	35.5	62.0
May	27.6	56.5
June	33.0	52.0
July	61.5	67.5
Aug.	74.0	73.5
Sept.	64.5	70.0
Oct.	51.5	64.0
Nov.	49.5	61.0
Dec.	60.0	64.7
Annual average	52.0	61.5

The mean daily range of maximum temperature at Jammu is 22.0°C while it is 18.4°C Banihal thereby registering a difference of only 3.6°C between these two Stations and hence the two regions they represent. Similarly mean daily range of minimum temperatures at Jammu stand at 19.4°C and at Banihal this range is 15.5°C thereby framing a difference of 3.9°C only. Thus there seems a parallel consistency in the daily range of temperatures at both these stations and thus in the regions as well. The daily average temperatures in the different months over the year, obviously, should support the conclusions just arrived and we, therefore, find the 21.8°C as the maximum daily average for the month of June and 4.85°C as the minimum daily average for the month of January.

A glance at Table 1.5 will exhibit a gradual decrease in the mean monthly relative humidity of Jammu from January to May where it touches its nadir and positions itself at 27.6 per cent. In July due to the arrival of monsoon the rain bearing winds, relative humidity of Jammu suddenly jumps to 61.5 per cent from 33.0 per cent in June which further rises to 74 per cent in August its zenith. But from August onwards it starts decreasing but due to the arrival of cyclonic winds from across the Mediterranean sea it remains between almost 50 per cent to 61 per cent till March where from it falls below 50 per cent due to the increase in the temperatures. But in the case of Banihal which represent the Middle mountain region the situation is unlike the Jammu which represents the outer Plains and Siwalik

region. The lowest percentage of relative humidity at Banihal is recorded in the month of June whereas it is May in case of Jammu. There is no month of the year when relative humidity falls below 55 per cent at Banihal. However, the 73.5 per cent symbolises the highest relative humidity during the year. It is, perhaps, due to the moderation of temperatures as a result of higher altitudes that the value of relative humidity never falls below 55 per cent.

It can thus be said of the climate of Jammu region that the regions enjoys two rainy seasons only from June to September and other from December to March with intervening two drought seasons from October to December and from April to June. From March to ending June may be called a summer season when in June the Maximum temperatures are recorded throughout the region and Dec. to March and may be the months of winter season.

Minerals

The use of minerals has been most significant factors for the economic development of any region. The minerals are so important for the mankind that certain areas of civilisations have been identified with different metals derived from mineral such as the Bronze age, the iron age and now we find that the modern times are recognized by the nuclear age due again to the Uranium and Thorium the atomic energy minerals. Technologically advance world of

today is perhaps the result of enlarged use of the minerals. We use minerals in almost every sphere of our economic activity be it machinery, engineering and structural material or chemical industry. Minerals are used to produce fertilizers so that agricultural production can be increased. Coal, petroleum and natural gas are other forms of minerals which generate so much of energy to keep the wheel of economy moving besides providing raw material for various industries. Briefly we can say that anything from a pin to automobiles, aeroplanes and ships etc. are due to the use of minerals. The mineral are, therefore, an unavoidable necessity of our daily life.

Man has no role to play in the distribution of minerals. The minerals wealth is, therefore, very unevenly distributed in the world. A study into the distribution of mineral resources of the world would reveal that there are certain countries which are not only deficit in their mineral wealth but are totally devoid of this wealth. On the other hand we find the concentration of certain minerals in a very few countries of the world. Take for example the case of iron are 80 per cent of which in world is mined each year in the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Sweden, Great Britain, Germany and Belgium - luxemburg only and remaining 20 per cent is mined in the rest of the world. Major portion of which is again shared by a few countries like China, Brazil, Australia Venezuela etc. No country in

the world can boast of having self-sufficiency in all the minerals needed for the development of Industry, the highly developed countries like U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Japan etc. lack in number of minerals the position of Japan is perhaps the worst in this regard as its entire industrial economy is based on the imported raw material also in general and mineral areas in particular, the case of Jammu and Kashmir, as regards, its mineral resources is almost identical. The state in general and Jammu region in particular is endowed with many minerals. But only few of them can be considered as of some economic significance. However, some of the important minerals found in the Jammu region with their location are being described in relation to their location and significance.

Bauxite

Bauxite is an important mineral ore from which aluminium is obtained. India is one of the important countries possessing large deposits of bauxite and the major bauxite deposits in India are of gibbsitic type. In Jammu region of the state diasporic type of bauxite is extensively found. This type of bauxite deposits exist along the coal belt of Jammu region extending from west to east in the vicinity of Chakkar, Sangarmarg, Panhasa and Sukhwalgali Jungalgali. The Jammu bauxite are lying over the gentle slopes of Sirban limestone but are themselves overlain by the Nummulities. These bauxite series are 3 to 7 m in thickness having an earlier estimated reserves

of 13.40 million tonnes but according to the revised estimates by the directorate of Geology and Mining, Jammu and Kashmir State these estimates are now reduced to only 8.69 million tons. Out of this estimate Pisolitic and semi-Pisolitic bauxite deposits are 2.84 million tons, Aluminous or bauxite clay 3.15 million tonnes and Kaolinite deposits amount to 2.70 million tonnes.

Geological Survey of India have also conducted some survey to estimate the reserves of bauxite deposits particularly in Chakkar, Sankermarg and Panhasa areas. According to this survey an area of 0.85 sq. km. in Triyath and 1.0 km. in Krul area of Chakkar were surveyed and mapped and a tentative reserves estimates were calculated to show that Triyath-Gaintha area possesses about 30,000 tonnes of bauxite and 54,000 tonnes of Aluminous clay. It was further analysed that bauxite deposit, contains 44.60-72.34 per cent of Al_2O_3 while the range of SiO_2 (Silicon oxide) is between 8.00 to 26.80 per cent. Similarly, Aluminous clay occurs with 24.29 to 59.84 per cent of Al_{2O_3} and 23.40 to 54.96 per cent of SiO_2 .

Saro-da-Bas is the second most important area where bauxite deposits occur the deposits in the area are scattered around Malhad Bansioth, Guljar and Chenar Sangar localities. Geological Survey of India extensively surveyed an area of about 0.60 sq. km. in the western part of Saro-da-Bas area and found that Pisolitic bauxite, aluminous clay and Kaolinite have an

average thickness of 0.70 m, 0.80 m and 1.60 m respectively and together have an estimated reserves of 4,64,430 tonnes of which Pisolitic bauxite is 22.67 per cent, aluminous clay is 32.41 per cent and Kaolinite forms 44.89 per cent.

Panhasa is the third most important area possessing bauxite deposits. This field too is spread over three different localities of Panhasa, Doga and Baldhanu situated between 33°-10'-45" to 33°-11'-30" N Latitude and 74°-45' to 74°-46'-25" E logitude. The average thickness of the deposits varies from 5m. at Panhasa, 5.25m at Doga and to 3m. at Baldhanu. Kaolinite deposits occuring in the region around village Thanpal, has an average thickness of 2 metres.

Reserves in Tonnes

It has further been estimated that a bauxite reserves of 90,000 tonnes have alumina content over to 50% with silica content restricted to only 10 per cent do exist in the reserves shown in the Table 1.1. We can thus conclude that the Jammu bauxites are diasporic in composition and are also highly siliceous. These qualities make the bauxites unfit for the use in the aluminium industry but can be utilised in moderate heat duty fire clay,

refractories of group A and B of Indian standard specifications.

COAL

Coal is another important mineral occuring in the Kalakot, Metka, Mohogala, Chakkar, Dhansal - Sawalkot, Ladha and Chinkah Coalfields of Jammu region. This coal belt extends in almost Northern - Southern direction for about 60 kms. This belt lies between 33° - 15' and 33° -01' -3" N latitude and 74° -22' -30" to 75° -02' E longitude. As stated the entire Coal-field of Jammu region can be divided into Jigni-Kura, Kala Kot, Metka, Mahogala Chinkah and Jangalgali coalfields. However, some conferous shely with high ash contents also occur in Ladakh region at Shakba, Ang Teak and at Hiniskut etc.

Jigni-Kura Coalfield

Jigni and Kura are the two fields. At Jigni two outcrops of 1.10 m and 1.0 m thickness can be identified. The coal is flaky and found in association with pyrite and sulpho salts. Due to highly folded beds it is difficult to estimate the reserves of this field. However, the provied reserves of kura coalfield are to the tune of 1,84,200 tonnes where the average thickness of coal seem is about 2.74 m.

<i>Block</i>	<i>Pisolitic</i>	<i>Aluminous clay</i>	<i>Kaolite</i>	<i>Total</i>
Panhasa	2,05,000	312,000	3,15,000	8,32,000
Doga	3,46,000	3,54,000	4,35,000	11,35,000
Baldhanu	1,20,000	1,40,000	1,65,000	4,25,000
Thanpal	-	16,000	24,000	40,000
Total	6,71,000	8,22,000	9,39,000	24,32,000
%age of the total	27.59	33.79	38.61	100%

Kalakot Coalfield

According to the analysis of sldge samples coal of this field is of poor quality. The entire field can be divided into three sub-blocks of Sair, Chemur upper horizon and Chamber lower horizon. According to the Geological Survey of India estimation based on Indian standard procedure for estimation of coal reserves these three blocks have a proved reserve us under:

Sair Block	- 1,20,000 tonnes.
Chemur Block upper horizon	- 2,95,168 tonnes.
Chemur block lower horizon	- 46654 tonnes.

The estimates of coal reserves of the Sair block have been varying from time to time. In 1960-61 a Geological Survey of India estimated the reserves of Sair block to be about 3.64 million tonnes which were revised only 12 million tonnes in 1961 and 1962-63 based on extensive survey by G.S.I.

Metka Coalfield

This coalfield is located in a doubly plunging anicline. An attempt was made to estimate the coal reserves of this field between 1963 and 1967. The coal of this field which is classified as low moisture, low volatile, bituminous to semi-anthracitic variety was calculated to have a reserve of 1.52 million tonnes. Besides this an additional coal is also available from the coal seams within the thickness range of 0.60 to 0.80 m. The reserve estimate of this available coal reaches to 0.73 million tonnes.

Mahagola Coalfield

The field was investigated by Geological Survey of India from 1966 by 1969 by drilling 39 boreholes. Depending upon the intersection of the coal seams through the boreholes it was presumed that the coal reserves of this field would be negligible. The influences drawn by the Geological Survey of India are being reproduced as under:

1. Coal occurs in lensoidal bodies with pronounced effects caused by folding.
2. Coals show lateral variations into carbonaceous shales and partings of the different seams are quite irregular as the seams themselves.
3. The thickness of the seams could not be precisely estimated due to erratic nature of the seams and very poor core recovery.
4. The grade of the coal could not be determined as sludge analysis indicate vide variations in the quality of the coals.
5. The detached nature of the lenses of coal resulted in the difficulty to determine promising zones. The mineable reserves appear quite negligible.

Jangalgali Coalfield

The coals in Jangalgali has high ash content is non-coking. Sulphur content in this coal varies from 4% to 11%. The total estimated reserves based on drilling results were calculated to be around 4.75 million tonnes. A low bituminous coal is also located in the Chinkah field. The estimated possible

reserves of this field are calculated to be 3.9 million tonnes.

Gypsum

Among the non-metallic minerals found not only in the Jammu region but in the state as a whole gypsum is by far the most important. The mineral is of considerable economic significance because of its grade and the quantity in which it occurs. In the Jammu region it occurs in Ramban-Batote-Assar belt of the Doda district.

In the year 1957 Geological Survey of India used X-ray machines and other methods like drilling to investigate the gypsum deposits of Ram-

factors show that the quality of the gypsum is good and the reserves are not only workable but have an accessibility too.

Another important area where gypsum reserves are located in the Parlanka – Thalwa block extending over a strike length of about 5 km. The gypsum contains very low sodium chloride which remains at 1.001%. However, the MgO along with some other oxides are present in some what higher proportions. These deposits can sustain the fertilizer or the cement industries on the gainful economic returns. The probable reserves of about 28 million tonnes of this area can be

TABLE 1.6

<i>Deposits</i>	<i>No. of boreholes drilled</i>	<i>Probable reserves (in tonnes)</i>
Balaut Khad	6	117,139.00
Dhatuwala Khad	-	75,871.00
Ganga Village		
Southern	2	16,82,983.00
Northern		5,45,824.00
Parlanka-thalwa area	3	83,50,195.00
Batoti	6	6,22,362.00
Total		11.41 million tonnes

ban and Batote region. According to the estimates the total reserves were placed at 11.41 million tonnes up to workable depth of 30.48 m along dip. The details of the deposits as investigated by G.S.I. are reproduced below:

The gypsum content found in the samples collected and analysed from the field shows a variation from 83.66 to 96 per cent. NaCl content in the gypsum from Ganga village area varies from traces to 0.029%. All these

exploited by strip mining over a considerable part of it.

Assar Deposits

Assar formation of Shalkhala series contain the gypsum deposits in almost three regular beds. The estimated probable reserves are to the tune of 10.18 million tonnes. The gypsum content in the ore is 89.47 per cent. This field can support the industries manufacturing chemical fertilizer cement and plaster of paris.

IRON ORE

Iron ore in Jammu and Kashmir state is exclusively found in the Jammu region only. In Jammu region too the ore is unevenly distributed and is occurring only in Gagrot area of Poonch district and in Matah and Kotla sangar area of Udhampur district.

In the Poonch district hematitic ore is found in Chert formation near Gagrot area. The estimates of reserves of the ore are placed at 49.0042 tonnes, whereas, estimates of inferred reserves are placed at 0.25 million tonnes. It has further been estimated that out of the total inferred reserves 7050 tonnes have iron content of 43 per cent and 96,000 tonnes have iron content varying from 31 to 39 per cent.

Iron ore in the Udhampur district occurs in the Sirban limestone at Matah and Kotla-Sangar areas. The indicated reserves of iron ore are placed at 2.54 million tonnes whereas inferred reserves are placed at a much higher figure of 22.97 million tonnes. Iron content of Udhampur ore is far less than the Iron content of the Poonch ore (varying between 12.60 to 34.15 per cent).

Limestone

Limestone is another commercially important mineral occurring in all the three regions of Jammu and Kashmir, viz., the Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh although with varying potential reserves. In the Jammu region limestone occurs in the Udhampur, Doda and Kathua district.

In the Udhampur district Geological Survey of India and Directorate of Geology and Mining, Jammu and Kashmir State have indicated that Limestone reserves to the tune of about 2 million tonnes occur at Malatha, Didi and Taini Blocks. Coa (Calcium oxide) content found in these reserves average about 37.38 per cent, Mg content 4 to 4.5 per cent.

The Kathua district is perhaps better placed than Udhampur district in so far as limestone reserves are concerned. Geological Survey of India has estimated the limestone reserves located at Ramrachan and Siara at 45.45 million tonnes. The reserves have some bands which can be considered as cement grade limestone. The (Calcium oxide) Coa content on an average are 42.85 % and Silica oxide (Sio) contents in the reserves are 17.27%.

In the Doda district 25 to 30 m. thick band of limestone has been found near Sarwoli a place situated at a distance of about 30 kms. towards east - north of Kishtawar town. This band is 6 km. Long. Another band 2 km. in length occurs near this region at Rob area with a thickness of 15 m. It is richer in Coa contents which are placed between 45 to 51 per cent.

Copper

Copper is found in all the three regions of the state with varying reserves. In the Jammu region copper has been located in the Doda and Udhampur districts. Although the important copper deposits occur outside the Jammu

region, nevertheless, copper needs some attention based on the strength of its occurrence in the region.

In the Doda district Cooper is reported to occur in the Muth quartzites near Dul. Copper ore is found in the streaks Veins, Lenses etc. of the muth quartzite of this region. Similarly the Copper ore occurs near Katra. But the deposits do not seem to enjoy any economic significance.

Bentonite

Bentonitic clays according to carried out by the concerned department exist in Siwalik formations in the Uttar Bains area of Jammu region. The Uttar Bains field containing Bentonite can be divided into two parts viz Uttar Bains Rattanpur area and Uttar Bains-Parmandal area.

Uttar Bains - Rattanpur Area

This field is richer in the Bentonitic reserves than the other one. Bentonitic clay occurring in 38 to 50 mm thick layer extends over the Conglomerate horizon of the upper Siwaliks near Uttar Bains at Rattanpur in the Udhampur district. Bentonitic clays give a tone of white and Pink colours.

According to the surveys conducted there are three bands of the clay depicting different thicknesses and quality.

(i) True Bentonite with 0.5 to 0.08 in thickness. (ii) This type includes bentonitic clays of 0.05 to 0.28 m thicknesses and band and the last category

consists of a bed 1.5 to 2.0 m in thickness and containing white and non-swelling Bentonitic clays. True Bentonite have been estimated to have a reserves of 81,000 and 79,000 tonnes respectively.

Uttar Bains-Parmandal Area

In the Uttar Bains Parmandal area 25 mm thick band of Bentonitic clay is located near Parmandal. The band extends in North-West-South-East direction over a length of 25.6 km. The estimates of the reserves have been placed at 71,000 tonnes.

LEAD AND ZINC

Although some deposits of lead and zinc occur in the Doda and Udhampur district of the region but they do not enjoy an economic significance. The Galena deposits occur at Chiche in the Doda district, the deposits are located at an altitude of 3440 m above mean sea level at a place 2.7 km. each of Chiche. The total reserves of the mineral are estimated to be around 3,700 tonnes. Galena also occurs in the Reasi tehsil of Udhampur district in the Sersandu-Kherikot area. In 1962 Indian Bureau of mines after a careful and detailed survey placed the estimate of the reserves at 0.7 million tonnes which was, however, not agreed to latter on by the same agency in 1967. The detailed survey work carried subsequently indicated that Galena mineralisation in the area is of sporadic nature and occurs in small pockets which renders it unfavourable for economic exploitation. The position of Zinc in the region is no better

than Galena. Some Zinc blende occurrence is reported from lower Drabi area. The investigations conducted in details indicate that there exists no important zone, even in the Sirben limestone region of sphalevite where it is supposed to have been occurring in two parallel fault zones.

MAGNESITE

Magnesite occurs in Ladakh and Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir State. In the Jammu region Magnesite deposits have been reported from Katra area or Udhampur district. Deposits are reported from an area lying 1.3 km. E of Adhkumari and also in the Peinala which is situated at about 1.5 km. west-south-west of Vaishno Devi Temple.

SAPPHIRE

There deposits assume greater significance for being famous the world over. The mines are located towards the north-west of Sumjam in the Pad-dar area of the Doda district. Sumjam is situated at a height of 44.18 m above mean sea level and hence is snow bound for major portion of the year thereby creating a difficulty in mining. Sapphire in the area occurs in Syenite pegmatites which are enclosed in actinolite-tremolite rock. Crystals are seldom above 5mm with flattening of pyramidal faces. The Jammu and Kashmir mineral Ltd. have been engaged in recovering the Gem variety of Sapphire only for few years only to discontinue it for various reasons.

A cursory look at the table indicating the distribution and utilization on mineral resources of Jammu region can give reader an easy understanding of most important mineral reserves in relation to their areas of occurrence, reserves available and the uses to which the mineral resources can be or being put to.

VEGETATION -- THE FOREST

The state of Jammu and Kashmir fortunately still enjoys the status of Paradise on the surface of the earth due mainly to the grandeur that has been bestowed on it by the forest cover which makes it an area of great natural charm. This charm is squared by the sparkling river, silvery springs and streams which all derive their respective lives to the forest cover for it is the forests which not only regulate the flow of water but maintains the hydrological cycle in pits proper form. Although the scenic beauty or natural charm for which the forests of state are famous yet their economic and commercial significance is no mean. The forest contributed 16.5 % to the income of the state from the primary sector in 1985-86. The forest contribution in 1984-85 was more than 17% showing thereby that the forests are consistant in their share of states's income.

The phenomenon rise in the population, the world over has exerted tremendous pressure on almost every resource. It has been, perhaps, more

Distribution and Utilization of Mineral Resources of Jammu Region

Name of the Resource	Area of occurrence	Reserves available	Investigating Agency	Name of the exploiting agency	Uses to which the resource can be and for being put to
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bauxite	Salal, Chakkar Jangalgali, Panasa Sangar-Marg Baldhana	4.4 million tonnes 1.62 M. tonnes - -	Geology & Mining Department - -	Orissa Cement Ltd. M/S J.K. Chemicals, Jammu. - -	Area is leased out for manufacture of refractories & some part of this deposit is also leased out for the manufacture of Ferric Allum.
Coal	A narrow belt of tertiary rock formations. Skirting around the limestone formations in the Jammu region contain in then a good quality coal. These deposits have been exploited at various sites important among them are kalakote, Metaka, Mahagola, Jangalgali, and Chakkar. However, due to the structural complications mining in these have become difficult. The entire mining process and control is in the public sector the details of the deposits and their potential has been included in the main text.				
Dolomite	Panthal, Katra area in Udhampur & Sincha-Ramban of-Doda District	- - - - - -	State Geology & Mining Department - - - -	- - - - -	But the entire area has been leased out to the National Development Corporation This was considered necessary for the sake of prospecting and exploitation.

7	8	9	10	11	12
Limestone					
-	Basoli (Kathus)	27 M tonnes	State	J&K Minerals	1. In Basoli Marginal grade
-	Mandi (Poonch)	5.2 M tonnes	Department	Ltd.	deposits of limestone are
-	-	-	-	-	being explored as a cement grade
-	-	-	-	-	raw material.
-	Kalakote (Rajouri)	2.5 M tonnes	of Geology	M/S Himalayan Foot	2. Deposits at Mandi area have been
-	Buffias (Poonch)	N.A.	and	Hill Cement	leased out for establishment
-	Salal	2.0 M tonnes	Mining	M/S Saraf Cement	of a minicement plant with an
-	Udhampur	-	-	J&K Minerals	installed capacity of 100 tonnes
-	Thana Mandi (Poonch)	Details not yet completed	-	-	per day.
-	-	-	G.S.I.	-	3. Salal deposits have been proved to
-	-	-	-	-	be unsuitable for cement Industry.
-	-	-	-	-	4. Other deposits are being explored
-	-	-	-	-	for chemical and the cement
-	-	-	-	-	industry.w

severe in the case of the forests. The situation in India and Jammu and Kashmir State is no more different. Accordingly, therefore, the pressure of population on the natural forests in Jammu and Kashmir has increased beyond any imagination. This trend has to be checked if the state has to defend its status of being a paradise on earth, bestowed upon it by the people of the world, taking into consideration the most significant forest cover which confers splendour on the landscape. A radical change in the management of the forests is the need of the hour. Although conservation oriented forestry has little relevance in the fast developing economy of the present day yet we have reached a stage where only conservation oriented management can save the forests. Otherwise degradation of forests in the hilly State of Jammu and Kashmir can have disastrous effects not only for the state but for the country as a whole and even beyond the borders (of the country) where only human race will suffer. The emphasis, therefore, should be to bring more areas under afforestation both within and outside the demarcated forests. But unfortunately statistical data does not indicate any move in the direction. The income contributed by the forest department towards the total revenue of the state has substantially and consistently increased from the very beginning. The contribution of forests to the state revenue for example in 1973-74 was 658.78 lakhs which increased to 3087.80 lakhs in 1981-82. Notwithstanding, of the total expen-

diture on the management of forests, the expenditure on the development of forests reduced to 25.69% in 1975-76 from 34 per cent in 1973-74. It is very interesting to note that data regarding the expenditure on the development of forest from 1974-75 onwards is conspicuous by its absence from the digest of forest statistics published by Jammu and Kashmir Government in 1982 thereby indicating the seriousness of forest department about the developmental aspects of the forest. Nevertheless, forest make very significant contribution to the economic development of state directly by contributing to the income of state by marketing various forest products both major and minor and indirectly by encouraging tourists inflow into the state a role of forests which should only be exploited to its maximum.

The distribution of areas under forests is quite impressive if only areas and not the density of growing stock is considered. Out of the total geographical area of 138124 sq. kms. of the state (excluding the areas illegally occupied by both Pakistan and China) 95876 sq. kms. are occupied by Ladakh region which supports forest on only 11.12 sq. kms. of area in the Kashmir region 55.18 per cent of 15853 sq. kms. area is under forest cover while in the Jammu region 45.96 per cent of 26395 sq. km. geographical area is covered by forests. The details of the areas maintaining forests in the Jammu region (Table 1.7) shows that except for the Kathua districts no district of region has less than 45 per

TABLE 1.7

District-wise Forest and Geographical Area (sq km.)

<i>District</i>	<i>Geographical Area</i>	<i>Forest area under cover</i>	<i>Games Areas</i>	<i>Total forest area</i>	<i>Percentage of total forest area to the geographical area</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
Jammu	3165.00	1445.49	39.00	1484.49	46.90
Udhampur	4549.00	2278.69	30.90	2309.59	50.77
Doda	11691.00	5403.29	-	5403.27	46.21
Kathua	2651.00	789.25	16.47	805.72	39.39
Rajouri	2681.00	1296.40	8.34	1304.74	48.66
Poonch	1658.00	825.53	-	82.53	49.79
Total of Jammu region	26895	12038.63	94.71	12133.34	45.96

1. Digest of Forest statistics, J&K Forest Record Number 1, 1982. p.l.

cent of its area under the cover of the forests. The Udhampur district with more than 50 per cent areas under forests stands at the top of the ladder in the region followed by Poonch (49.79 %) and Rajouri (48.66%). The Jammu and the Doda districts respectively have 46.9 and 18.2 per cent areas containing forests while Kathua with 30.39 per cent areas under forest cover completes the tally.

For the efficient working of the forests, we find that the Forest Department maintains a different hierarchical pattern in Jammu and Kashmir. At top is the Chief Conservator of forests who is the head of the forest management and conservation and has the control over and responsibility of conserving and managing the Forests

of the whole State. He is assisted by a number of conservators of forest which are responsible for performing corresponding duties for a circle. While comprises of a number of forest divisions. These divisions are managed by a divisional forest Officer. The lower hierarchical orders in the forest management are the range the book, compartment and the beat in descending order. A district may be having more than one forest division as is in the case of Doda, Udhampur and Rajouri districts. The table 1.8 will give us an idea about the areas under different forest species - both conifers and broad leaved, in various forest divisions of the Jammu region. However, the table is not showing the area under broad leaved species as they are so insignificant that

Division-wise Area under Different Species Area in Hectare

Division	Deodar	Kail	Fir	Chir	Blanks	Total	Uncommercial	Grand Total
Kishtawar	11231.00 (17.76%)	9987.00 (13.75%)	18905.00 (13.60%)	-	-	40123.00 (7.90%)	222716.00 (32.0%)	26839.00 21.83%
Doda	18227.26 (28.82%)	21077.48 (29.02%)	32360.02 (23.30%)	281.00 (0.16%)	-	71945.76 (14.17%)	51995.96 (7.47%)	123941.72 (10.30%)
Bhaderwah	19367.00 (30.62%)	13393.00 (18.44%)	16968.00 (12.22%)	26.00 (0.01%)	-	49754.00 (9.80%)	60176.00 (8.64%)	109930.00 (9.13%)
Ramban	4993.02 (7.89%)	12821.67 (17.65%)	13883.67 (10.0%)	7211.10 (4.11%)	-	38909.35 (7.67%)	49141.43 (7.06%)	88050.78 (7.32%)
Reasu	230.00 (0.36%)	5221.60 (7.19%)	5451.60 (3.92%)	14409.20 (8.22%)	-	25312.40 (4.98%)	95272.40 (13.69%)	120584.80 (10.10%)
Udhampur	2753.48 (4.35%)	4744.54 (6.53%)	7798.30 (5.61%)	21625.21 12.34%	-	39921.53 7.27%	27393.20 3.93%	6431473 5.34%
Poonch % Rajouri	228.24 0.36%	5121.71 7.05%	29841.41 21.48%	65335.34 37.27%	-	100526.43 19.80%	125379.41 18.01%	225905.84 18.76%
Billawar	6199.00 9.8%	261.00 0.35%	137.00 9.87%	22517.00 12.84	-	44360 8.73%	53951.00 9.20%	108311.00 9.0%
Jammu	-	-	-	43895.00 25.03%	34419.00 100%	99985.00 19.67%	-	99985.00 8.3%
Total Jammu Region	63229.00	72628.00	138907.8	175299.85	34419.00	507837.47	696025.40	1203862.87

they hardly need any mention except of course in the two forest division of Billawar and Jammu. In the Jammu forest division more than 92 per cent are broad leaved species in the region are concentrated whereas remaining about 7 per cent areas are found in Billawar forest division. In all other forest divisions of the region they are so poorly represented that they hardly require any mention.

The Analysis of the data in Table 1.8 shows a very heavy concentration of Deodar species (*Cedrus Deodara*) in the Bhaderwah, Doda and the Kishtawar forest divisions. It is interesting to note that little over 77 per cent areas under this species are contained in these three forest divisions. In fact this heavy concentration of areas under Deodar should neither confuse nor surprise anyone as all the silvicultural and other requirements of the Deodar species are predominantly available in these three forest divisions. Among the other divisions contributing areas under Deodar are the Billawar, Ramban and Udhampur in order of their standing. The Billawar forest division with 9.80 per cent areas under Deodar in region is followed by Ramban forest division maintains only 4.35 per cent of the total areas under Deodar species in the region. Since the climatic altitudinal and silvicultural requirement of the Deodar species are practically absent in the Jammu forest division we, therefore, find no Deodar forest in the division.

The Kail or *Pinus wallichiana* is commonly known as blue pine demands 1000-2000 mm of rainfall in a year. It thrives best in areas having height between 1500-3000 m but can more up to 3600 m. In contrast to it, the Deodar stands comfortably between 1200 to 3000 m in areas receiving even less rainfall as is demanded by the blue pine species. However, the rainfall requirements of *Cedrus Deodara* ranges between 1000 to 1800 mm. Accordingly, therefore, we can conclude that both Deodar and Kail require almost identical physical conditions with minor variations. Obviously, therefore, the distribution of areas under both these species should justify the conclusions just drawn. And when we seen the Table 1.8 we find that the Doda, Bhadarwah and the Kishtawar forest divisions which contain nearly 77% areas under Deodar possess no less than 61% area under Kail as well. In the distribution of areas under Kail in the region there seems more uniformity which was rather absent in the case of deodar forests.

The Ramban forest division which holds only 7.89% areas of Deodar region, contains more than 17% area under Kail in the Jammu region. Similarly the Poonch and Rajouri forest divisions which are lacking in Deodar areas are enjoying a honourable place with 7.05% area of the region under Kail. The Billawar forest division, However, is poor in respect of Kail resources (0.35%).

There are two important Fir species (*Abies pindrow* and *Picea smythiana*) in Jammu and Kashmir. However, both these species are managed under a single working as it is commonly known likes moist situations on northerly aspect within the heavy snowfall regions of the Jammu region. The annual precipitation within its natural habitat should be between 1150 and 2550 mm—the rain falling between July and September and Snow between December and April. As far as altitude is concerned fir exists easily between 2300 m and 3600 m and some times it is located even at higher altitudes but on warmer aspects. Such conditions, Obviously are found in the middle Himalayan portion of Jammu region. We, therefore, find the one the examination of Table 1.8 that more than 80% area under fir forests are located in the Bhaderwah, Doda, Ramban, Kishtawar and Poonch and Rajouri forest divisions which are all situated in the mountainous region of the Jammu. The fir forest enjoy an honourable position in the Billaوار forest division where nearly 10% area under these forest of the Jammu region are contained. The Udhampur (5.61) and the Reasi (3.2%). However, include insignificant areas under fir in the region.

The chir or *Pinus roxburghii* may be considered an endangered species in the Jammu entire Western Himalayan region in general and in Jammu region in particular. The ex-

cessive tapping for resin, excessive and uncontrolled grazing, heavy population pressure with ever increasing demand for fuel and timber, frequent forest fires in the chir zone have contributed in the process of degradation of these forests. It is significant to note that Chir Pine establishes itself only in the Jammu region and is conspicuous by its absence in the Kashmir region where all other conifer species described earlier are as important as they are in the Jammu region, if not more. This peculiarity due to the fact that monsoon winds fail to cross Pirpanjal range to give rainfall in the Kashmir Valley from July to September and this being the germination period of Chir Pine which fails to germinate in the absence of required amount of moisture in the Kashmir region. Thus the entire areas under this conifer species are concentrated in the Jammu region where it finds suitable environmental conditions for its existence. Troup, after obtaining rainfall data for a number of stations in the Pine Zone, suggests that an annual rainfall of between 100 mm and 1800 mm may be called as minimum and maximum limits respectively. But he also points out that "figures show considerable divergence between the recorded minimum and maximum average rainfall within the natural habitat of the tree, namely 900 to 3000 mm but they do not represent the absolute limit which the tree is capable of standing, at any rate so far as the minimum is concerned".

As far the temperature in the Chir Pine zone, Troup reports that Rani Khet, where Pure Chir Pine forest stand, the absolute maximum and minimum shade temperatures are 32.2°C and 3.8°C with 15.5°C as the annual mean. But for Shimla, the corresponding figures are 34.4°C, 7.22°C and 12.7°C and for Dehradun 43.8°C, 1.1°C. Troup, therefore, concluded that the natural habitat for Chir Pine is that where the shade temperatures lies somewhere between several degrees below freezing well to over 37.7°C.

The pine grows over a variety of geological formations. In the Siwalik hills Chir Pine stands on tertiary sandstones with occasional bands of a clay or bed of conglomerate. In the Jammu region, therefore, one fourth of the total areas under Chir pine are concentrating in the Jammu forest division where as Poonch and Rajouri forest division still more under Chir Pine (37.27%). The Jammu Billawar and Poonch — Rajouri forest divisions together hold a little over 75% of the areas under Chir Pine in the region as well as in the state. Of the remaining 25% areas 12.34% are located in the Udhampur division while Reasi (8.22%) and Ramban (4.11%) occupy reasonable good areas under Chir pine forest. The Doda (0.01%) and the Kishtwar (0.16%) forest divisions contribute insignificant area under the species due mainly to unfavourable environmental condition for the Chir Pine in these forest division. It is only

at the lower elevations, along the course of the Chenab river, that we find patches of the Chir Pine in the Doda, Ramban, Kishtwar and Bhaderwah forest division.

But if look at the Table 1.8 to acquaint ourselves about overall picture regarding the areas under forest of all categories than a different picture emerges. It is the Kishtwar division which occupied little more than one fifth of the total forest areas of the region (21.83%) Kishtwar is closely followed by Poonch and Rajouri division with 18.76% areas. The Reasi and the Doda forest division hold almost identical areas of little over 10% of the total areas under forest in the region. The Billawar and the Bhaderwah forest divisions are fairly well forested respectively sharing 9.0 and 9.13% areas with the region. Although Ramban (7.31%) Udhampur (5.54%) account for comparatively less areas yet they are very important if we take into consideration forest composition, variety of species they hold and part these two divisions play in the economic and conservational activities.

No study of plant life of any region can be considered as having being completed scientifically, without deliberation on the type of vegetation of possesses. Moreover, in the light of the important role forest play in the economy of the state. It becomes all the more necessary to consider the forest types and their distribution over

the region space. And in shaping the forest types factors like geology soil and climate have a significant role to play. In the hilly region of Jammu altitude assumes another important dimension in determination of forest types. Accordingly, therefore, climate altitude and factors like slope, aspect etc. may be considered as significant factors in determining the distribution of forest types.

Bhai Sher Singh, while discussing the effect of climate on the conifers of Kashmir had attempted to divide the forest types of Jammu region in to five casses:

1. The Phulai (*Aacacia Modestes*) and Olive (*Olive Cuspidata*) zone from 450 to 900 m.
2. The Chir zone .(*Pinus Lonoifoia*) from 900-1700 m.
3. The blue pine zone (*Pinus Wallichaina*) from 1700-3500 m. This zone is further divided into three sub-zones viz.,
 - 3.1. Deodar (*cedrus deodara*) zone from 1800-2600 m.
 - 3.2. Dix (*Abies Pindrow*) zone from 2400-3000 m.
 - 3.3. The Kharsu (*Quercus semicarpifolia*) zone from 2750-3050 m.
4. The Sub-alpine zone from 3050-3650 m and upward.

This classification bears testimony to the fact that Bhai Sher Singh seems to have taken height as the main factor for Classification subject of course to "minor local modifications."

A similar study of forest types of Jammu and Kashmir was carried out by Innayatullah Mir and B.L. Tikar who depend heavily on champions survey of forest types of India.

H.G. Champion's work on the survey of forest type of India is of fundamental nature. This work has been revised by Champion himself and S.K. Seth with minor modifications. The forest types discussed here are more or less localisation inserted in the general scheme of classification of Indian forest types for Champion and Seth. But from the study of various working plans and extensive tours throughout the length and breadth of the forests, certain interesting exception heve been noticed. These includes certain types mentioned to be present in Jammu and Kashmir, state by champion and seth but which are either absent or exist so insignificantly as not to deserve any mention. These types are 12/1S₂9 (Riverain blue pine). 14/1S₁(*Hippophae/Myicaria Brakes*). 14/1S₂ (Deciduous Subelpine Scrub), 14/DS₁ (Sub-alpine pastures) and 12 E₁ (Cypress Forests). Again Champion has mentioned only 12/C₂ (C) (temperate deciduous forest) type to be presnt in Jammu and Kashmir and has omitted 12/C₂ (a,b) type @ in the state and are being discussed in the forth coming discussssion. As a result there-

of classification presented here is a sort of filling in the blanks left by Champion in his survey of forest types pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir state with a focus on Jammu region.

The following forest type as reported by Champion, are found in Jammu and Kashmir. His groups are indicated with every type. Champion's group which do not fall in or are insignificantly present in Jammu and Kashmir State as mentioned earlier have been omitted in here. It is important rather imperative to mention that the discussion part pertaining to the spatial distribution of the forest types shall be restricted only to those forest types which are relevant only to the Jammu region

FOREST TYPES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Groups 5. Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests.

- (a) 58/C₂ — Tropical-Dry Deciduous Forests.
- (b) 5B/DS₁ — Dry Deciduous scrubs.
- (c) 5/E₉ — Dry bamboo brakes.

Group 9. Sub-tropical pine forests.

- (a) 9/C₁/a — Lower or Siwalik Chir Pine Forest
- (b) 9/C₁/b — Upper or Himalayan Chir Pine Forests.
- (c) 9/C₁/DS₁ — Himalayan sub-tropical scrub.
- (d) 9/C₁/DS₂ — Sub-Tropical Euphorbia Scrubs.

Group 10. Sub-tropical Dry Evergreen Forests.

- (a) 10/C₁ — Sub-tropical Dry Evergreen forest.
- (b) 10/C₁/a — Olea Cuspidata Scrub Forest.
- (c) 10/C₁/b — Acacia moderate Scrub Forest.
- (d) 10/C₁/DS₁ — Dodonaea Scrub.

Group 12. Himalayan Moist-temperate Forests

- (a) 12/C₁/a — Ban Oak forest (*Quercus incana*)
- (b) 12/C₁/B — Moru Oak Forest I(*Quercus dilatata*)
- (c) 12/C₁/c — Moist Deodar Forest
- (d) 12/C₁/d — Western mixed Conifer Forest.
- (e) 12/C₁/e — Moist temperate deciduous forest.
- (f) 12/C₁/f — Low Level Blue Pine Forest.
- (g) 12/C₁/DS₁ — Oak Scrub.
- (h) 12/C₁/DS₂ — Himalayan Secondary Scrub.
- (i) 12/C₂ — Upper West Himalayan Temperate Forest.
- (j) 12/C₂/a — Kharshoo Oak forest (*Quercus semicurpifolia*)
- (k) 12/C₂/b — West Himalayan Oak Fir Forest.
- (l) 12/C₂/C — Moist Temperate Deciduous Forest.
- (m) 12/DS₂ — Himalayan Temperate Park Land.
- (n) 12/DS₃ — Himalayan Tem-

Perate Pastures.

- (o) 12/1S₁ — Alder Forest.
- (p) 12/2S₂ — Low Level Blue Pine Forest.

Group 13. Himalayan Dry Temperate Forests.

- (a) 13/C₁ — Dry Broad Leaved and Coniferous Forest.
- (b) 13/C₂ — Dry Temperate Coniferous Forest
- (c) 13/C₂/a — Neoza pine (*Pinus gerardiana*)
- (d) 13/C₂/b — Dry Deodar Forest.
- (e) 13/C₂/DS₁ — Pohu Scrub.
- (f) 13/C₂/DS₂ — Dry Temperate Scrub.
- (g) 13/C₃ — West Himalayan Dry Temperate Deciduous Forest.
- (h) 13/C₄ — West Himalayan high Level Dry Blue Pine.
- (i) 13/C₅ — West Himalayan dry Juniper Forest.
- (j) 13/1S₁ — Hippophae - Myricaia Scrub.
- (k) 13/1S₂ — Populus - Salix Forest.

Group 14. Sub-Alpine Forests.

- (a) 14/C₁/a - West Himalayan Sub-alpine High Level Fir Forest.
- (b) 14/C₁/b — West Himalayan Birch/fir forest.

Group 15. Moist Alpine Scrub.

- (a) 15/C₁ — Birch-Rhododendron scrub forest.
- (b) 15/C₂ — Deciduous Alpine scrub.

(c) 15/C₂/E — Dwarf Rhododendron.

(d) 15/E₂ — Juniper Scrub.

(e) 15/C₃ — Alpine Pastures.

Groups 16. Dry Alpine Scrub.

(a) 16/C₁ - Dry Alpine scrub.

(b) 16/E₁ - Dwarf juniper scrub.

Groups 5. Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests.

5B/C₂ — Tropical dry deciduous forest:- This type requires a mean annual temperature between 24°C to 27°, dropping rather lower at the northern limits. Summer temperatures are generally high, touching about 43°C and minimum recorded temperatures in these forests are between 2.2°C to 6.1°C. The rainfall requirements is met through the monsoons between July and September with appreciable winter rains particular in Jammu and Kashmir State. The typical rainfall is between 500-1000 MM.

In the Jammu region the type occurs in the sub-tropical region of Jammu, extending right from Basoli to Mendhar. It also extends to some the inner valleys of outer Himalayas in the region such as Arnas, Chenani and Barian in the Basantgarh range of the Billawar forest division. The important species in this belt consist of *Acacia catechu*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Lannea gandis*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Shretia laevis*, *Albizia lebbek*, *Acacia modesta*, *Mallotus philippensis*, *Carrisa spinarum*, *Dodonaea viscorosa*, *Woodfordia floribunda*, *Adiantum*. Besides these species

some important climbers in the belt from Basoli to Mendhar are *Pueraria tuberosa* and *Banhinia vahlic*.

Certain interesting exceptions have been noticed in the flora of the areas lying between Basoli in the east and Mendhar in the west. These exceptions came to the notice of the author while on extensive tour in these areas. The notable among there are :

- 1) *Anogeissus latifolia*: This type of the group under discussion is absent in the whole of this except in a single large patch in the Reasi forest range where it occurs in a confined manner
- 2) *Dendrocalamus* is a confined only to the Jasrota range along with a few places in the Kalidhar, Dhaleri and Thakrakot ranges of Jammu and Reasi forest divisions respectively.
- 3) *Acacia Catechu* which is absent altogether in Mendhar, decreases gradually in quantity from Basoli in the east to the west till it absent itself in the Mendhar.
- 4) *Wendlandia Exerta*: This species which is not typical of this type, is found extensively in the Jandera, the Reasi, the Kalidhar and the Dhaleri ranges. Similarly *Acacia modesta* though not typical of this type is found all over this region.

- 5) *Eupherbia Caeae*: This is a representation of Dehradun flora but is very well developed along Ujh river above Mandli and elsewhere in the sub-tropics of Jammu.

5B/DS¹ - *Dry Deciduous Scrub*: This type is fairly represented both at the top and at the bottom of the low Siwalik hills falling in the Jammu and Billawar forest divisions. Due to shallowness of the soil and lack of moisture in it only xerohytic species can thrive best. Another factor which is responsible for the degradation of this type in the Jammu region is the excessive grazing. The important species of the type in the region are *Hollarhena antidysentirica*, *Dodoceca viscosa*, *Carrisa spinerum* and *Zizyphus-sp*.

5/E_g. *Dry Bamboo brakes*: For all practical purposes these bamboo forests occur only in the Jasrota range of the Billawar forest division. The Bamboo forests are area for area the most valuable fore of the locality. They occur gregariously on recent comparatively loose textured conglomerate and very rarely on other rock formations. They occupy a zone of elevation between 300 in to 800 m. There are pure Bamboo forests in Jasrota and Bangi but banseri(shrub) dominate them in Budohi and Salan. The type also occurs in Challangarh rakhin the Thakrakot range some specimen of bamboo are also seen in Kalldhar and the Dhaleri ranges. A characteristic feature of this type is that broad leaned species such as *Lannea grandis*, *Fiscus-*

bengalensis form an open upper storey, Bamboo also occurs without an upper storey at some places.

Historical evidences show that bamboo forests in this region were cut ruthlessly in the past resulting in their distrution. The new existing Bamboo forests mentioned above are but the remanents of much vaster such forests that florished in the past.

Groups 9. *Sub-Tropical Pine Forests:* The forests of this group stand on the steep dry slopes below 1000 m on the Siwalik rocks consisting mainly of colaghnerates and sand stones. The type occurs under a wide range of chimetic conditions. The rainfall of between 900 m to over 2500 m is the representative of the type. Summer temperatures are very high with winter snows in the upper parts of the chir forests. But the ideal temperatures are recognised between 23°C and 15°C with 1800 mm as annual rainfall. Such climatic conditions in the Jammu region are met with in Jammu, parts of the Udampur, the Billawar, the Reasi, the Rajouri and the and the Poonch forest divisions. In fact all these covers almost the entire region under discussion.

Champions group 9 in the Jammu region if represented by the Himalayan sub-tropical pine forests with their following subdivisions,

i) Lower or Siwalik Chir Pine Forest, 2) Upper or the Himalayan Chir Pine Forests (iii) The Himalayan sub-tropical scrubs (iv) Sub-Tropical

Euphorbia scrub. a/C₁/a *Lower or Siwalik Chir Pine Forest:* The type occurs mostly on the lower ranges of Siwalik. Some of the peculiarities of this type are that natural regeneration of Chir in this region is difficult. This may be attributed to the rugged conditons of topography where water table is quite low and the soil remains devoid of moisture for a pretty long time in the year with little rainfall in summer months.

The lower Siwalik or Chir-Pine Forest in the region are mainly dispersed in the Billawar, the Jammu and the Rajouri forest divisions. Some areas of the Reasi Forest Division, are also occupied by this type. In the Rajouri Forest Division the entire lower tract of the Dhaleri, the Nowshera and the Rajouri ranges are covered by this type. In the Billawar forest division the representative type occurs on the outer Siwaliks in almost all the ranges particularly in the Jasrota ranges. In the Reasi forest division the type occurs on the lower portions of the Reasi range and also in certain areas of the Thakrakot range. Some important broad leaved species occuring along Chir Pine in good percentage are *Lannea grandis*, *Acacia catchu*, *Dalbergia sisso* *Wendlandia ex-certa* etc. Some of the thorny species like *Euphorbia royleana* are commonly found.

9/C₁/b *Upper or Himalayan Chir Pine Forest:* This type occurs best in the upper reaches of the Billawar, the Reasi, the Udampur, the Rajouri and

Poonch forest divisions too. It is represented in the Ramban Forest Division. The type also finds its place comfortably in some of the inner valleys of the Tawi, the Ujh and the Sewa which form the catchment areas of river Chenab and the Ravi. In the Udhampur forest division the type is represented in the catchment areas of Birun Nalla and along river Tawi, particularly along and below Chenani forests. Similarly these forests are met with in Haritarian, Bhangar, Bhatimali, Firshi, Bali and in blocks across Tawi in Pinger, Thelay, Malti Qasuri and Bhagpur etc., in the Ramnagar range. In the Ramban forest division the type exists on the steep ground along Biehlari Nalla and along the skirit of river Chenab. In the Reasi forest division, however, this type is met within the upper reaches of Reasi and Thakrakot ranges. At lower limit certain species like *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Olea cuspidata*, *Pistacia integerrima* are commonly found while in the middle *Pyrus pashia*, *Grewia* spp. etc. are frequently met with stand towards the upper limits we find *Albizzia* spp. Some of the shrubs like *Myrsine Africana* and *Punica granatum* typical of the type present in the area.

As compared to the lower or Siwalik Chir Pine Forests these forests are well developed and more important in the whole of Jammu region. Unlike lower or Siwalik chir pines natural regeneration is no problem here particularly when the forests are closed for and even otherwise natural regeneration is good at places.

9/C₁/DS₁ *Himalayan Sub-tropical Scrub*: Forming an open arrangement, this sub-tropical scrub is found in the Siwalik Chir Pine Zone. The overwood which is absent seems to have been destroyed. The vegetation which consists of *carris spinarum*, *Dodonaca viscosa* and *woodfordia floribonda* is found along the national highway around Jhajjar Kotli, near Katra, Mansar, Kalidhar range and Hatli in Kathua.

9/C₁/DS₂ *Sub-tropical Euphorbia Scrub*: The typical *Euphorbia royleana* scrub is mostly found in areas like Tikri in the Udhampur range, Hatli in the Kathua range as in the Dhaleri and Reasi range. This is an edaphic formation in the real sense but because of over grazing has spread to areas outside its natural habitat in the precipitous and rocky grounds.

Group 10 Sub-tropical Dry Evergreen Forests: In Jammu region these forests are known as sub-tropical broad leaved forests. These are practically shrub forests of ever green trees, including theory species. The type is found over the areas where hot season prevails for long and also remains dry and where winters are cold with forest. "The annual precipitation rarely exceeds 1000 mm but is usually over 500 mm occurring mostly in July-August but with a fair proportion of winter rains". The type thrives best between 300 m and 1500 m on sedimentary rocks, sandstones, shales, marl and limestone particularly on the hilly grounds where soil is usually shallow and dry.

10/C₁/a *Olea cuspidata* Scrub Forests:

This species in the Jammu regions occurs widely in the Poonch, the Rajouri the Udhampur, Reasi and the Ramban forest divisions. It also finds place in the Doda forest division. Some concentrated patches of *olea cuspidata* are reported to be present at Bida near Chenani. Among other broad leaved species Olive is conspicuous. *Punica granatum* is a characteristic scrub.

10/C₁/b *Acacia modesta* scrub forest

: *Acacia modesta* is locally known as Phullai and is commonly found in the different Rakhs around Jammu city such as Bahu Rakh, Khari Rakh and Ramnagar Rakh. It also occurs in Bal-lol Nalla and its catchment area and in and around Pallaura village. To be precise, this species mixed with other species is found throughout the length and breadth of the sub-tropical zone of the region.

10/C₁/DS₁ *Dodonaea scrub*: : This scrub is found in Kishanpur, Jhajar Kotli, Mansar-Manwal, Jandrah and the Kalidar areas of Jammu region. In the Reasi forest division it gets replaced on favourable sites by *woodfordia floribunda*, *carrisa spinarum*, and *Rhuscontinus*. Similarly it can be seen below Katra, and near about Reasi, Talwara, Pauni and Bharakh etc. It also appear in the Rajouri forest division and over a large areas, in its natural habitat, in the entire Jammu region, *Dodonaea viscosa* while covering large areas is an potent indicator of over grazed and degraded forests. It has a tendency of colonising certain areas

as a special habitat.

Group 12 *Himalayan Moist Temperate Forests*:

These forest are known for the extensive development of coniferous forest. "These coniferus forests are very similar to those of other parts of the north temperate zone in Europe and America. The number of dominant species is small, infact more or less pure crops are almost more frequent than mixed ones, the species found being dependent mainly on altitude and aspect".

The type is found between the sub-tropical pine forests and sub-alpine formations throughout the Himalayas where the rainfalls between 1000 mm and 2500 mm and within the altitudinal range of between 1500 m to 3300 m. This range of altitude may vary with aspect and configuration of the ground. In the Jammu region an annual rainfall of 1150 mm (Bhaderwah) seems to be sufficient. The rainfall is mostly due to S-W monsoons from, July to September. During winters, cyclonic disturbances from mediterranean sea are largely responsible for precipitations.

These forests chiefly occur on gneisses and schists but can comfortably grow on conglomerate and shales. The type extends chiefly on quartzites, granites and limestones.

12/C₁/a *Ban Oak Forest (Quercus incana)*

Although these forests are very much restricted as most of them have been cleared for cultivation, still in many localities they are very well developed and are found in pure form. the important localities in the Jammu region where Ban Oak forests are found in pure form are the upper portion of the Billawar, the Kalontra-Kaitha Majouri, Samehri Matra and Basantgarh ranges. Elsewhere these forest are found in open form in this area and occur between 1200 m and 1800 m and can grow both on northern and southern aspects but more easily on the northern than on the southern.

Quercus incana occurs in dense patches along depressions in Kail forests forming understorey in low level coniferous forest of the oak forest occur in the Rajouri Forest Division either pure or mixed with other broad leaved species like *Litsaca spp*, *symplocos erataegoides*, *pistacia intergerrima* etc. In the Udhampur division, on the other hand, the type mostly occurs in the Dudu valley where *Quercus incana* is found in appreciable stretches either pure or mixed with *Machilus Rhododendron arboreum*, *Pieris Ovalifolia* etc. In the pure form the type also occurs capping chir forests on the southern side of Ladhahar and Jugdhar. As mentioned earlier Ban Oak occupies the largest area in the Billawar forest division. It appears as a pure crop in chir belt and a little higher up. It further extends right into the Deodar-Kail belt to be replaced by Mors. In the Doda for forest divi-

sion the type is not developed but is met within Marmat and also at Places in udil and the Desa ranges.

Due to heavy lopping for fodder these forest have been degraded but are being replaced by Deodar forests, particularly in the Chorusu forests of the Kishtawar range and the Cheon Forest of the Billawar range. 12/C1/6.

MORU OAK FOREST; (*QUERCUS DILATATA*)

In Jammu region these forests are not very well developed but still occur along with Deodar which constitutes one of the most important and most extensive of the moist temperate forest. The Moru oak is developed over unexposed sites, infact it is mesophytic in character. *Quercu dilatata* is well developed. In the Marmat and the Thakrai ranges of the Doda forest division between 2000 to 2500m. Moru Oak is well represented with in its altitudinal limit in the Billawar forest division. In the Udhampur forest division *Quercus dilatata* is generally founded in and around "Chaks" which exist in a dotted fashion throughout the natural habitat of the species. *Quercus dilatuta* is found stretching over large areas from Chir Zone to the Fir Zone in the Reasi Forest Division. Although these forests are not very well developed in the region, still Moru Oak is found in the Loran valley, Behramgala and the Basoli range, Lothra in the Basantgarh range, the Neru and the Bhallsh ranges. These forests too are heavily looped for

10/C₁/a *Olea cuspidata* Scrub Forests:

This species in the Jammu regions occurs widely in the Poonch, the Rajouri the Udhampur, Reasi and the Ramban forest divisions. It also finds place in the Doda forest division. Some concentrated patches of *olea cuspidata* are reported to be present at Bida near Chenani. Among other broad leaved species Olive is conspicuous. *Punica granatum* is a characteristic scrub.

10/C₁/b *Acacia modesta* scrub forest :

Acacia modesta is locally known as Phullai and is commonly found in the different Rakhs around Jammu city such as Bahu Rakh, Khari Rakh and Ramnagar Rakh. It also occurs in Ballol Nalla and its catchment area and in and around Pallaura village. To be precise, this species mixed with other species is found throughout the length and breadth of the sub-tropical zone of the region.

10/C₁/DS₁ *Dodonaea scrub* : This scrub is found in Kishanpur, Jhajar Kotli, Mansar-Manwal, Jandrah and the Kalidar areas of Jammu region. In the Reasi forest division it gets replaced on favourable sites by *woodfordia floribunda*, *carrisa spinarum*, and *Rhuscontinus*. Similarly it can be seen below Katra, and near about Reasi, Talwara, Pauni and Bharakh etc. It also appear in the Rajouri forest division and over a large areas, in its natural habitat, in the entire Jammu region, *Dodonaea viscosa* while covering large areas is an potent indicator of over grazed and degraded forests. It has a tendency of colonising certain areas

as a special habitat.

Group 12 *Himalayan Moist Temperate Forests*:

These forest are known for the extensive development of coniferous forest. "These coniferus forests are very similar to those of other parts of the north temperate zone in Europe and America. The number of dominant species is small, infact more or less pure crops are almost more frequent than mixed ones, the species found being dependent mainly on altitude and aspect".

The type is found between the sub-tropical pine forests and sub-alpine formations throughout the Himalayas where the rainfalls between 1000 mm and 2500 mm and within the altitudinal range of between 1500 m to 3300 m. This range of altitude may vary with aspect and configuration of the ground. In the Jammu region an annual rainfall of 1150 mm (Bhaderwah) seems to be sufficient. The rainfall is mostly due to S-W monsoons from, July to September. During winters, cyclonic disturbances from mediterranean sea are largely responsible for precipitations.

These forests chiefly occur on gneisses and schists but can comfortably grow on conglomerate and shales. The type extends chiefly on quartzites, granites and limestones.

12/C₁/a *Ban Oak Forest (Quercus incana)*

Although these forests are very much restricted as most of them have been cleared for cultivation, still in many localities they are very well developed and are found in pure form. the important localities in the Jammu region where Ban Oak forests are found in pure form are the upper portion of the Billawar, the Kalontra-Kaitha Majouri, Samehri Matra and Basantgarh ranges. Elsewhere these forest are found in open form in this area and occur between 1200 m and 1800 m and can grow both on northern and southern aspects but more easily on the northern than on the southern.

Quercus incana occurs in dense patches along depressions in Kail forests forming understorey in low level coniferous forest of the oak forest occur in the Rajouri Forest Division either pure or mixed with other broad leaved species like *Litsaca spp*, *symplocos erataegoides*, *pistacia intergerrima* etc. In the Udhampur division, on the other hand, the type mostly occurs in the Dudu valley where *Quercus incana* is found in appreciable stretches either pure or mixed with *Machilus Rhododendron arboreum*, *Pieris Ovalifolia* etc. In the pure form the type also occurs capping chir forests on the southern side of Ladhahar and Jugdhar. As mentioned earlier Ban Oak occupies the largest area in the Billawar forest division. It appears as a pure crop in chir belt and a little higher up. It further extends right into the Deodar-Kail belt to be replaced by Mors. In the Doda for forest divi-

sion the type is not developed but is met within Marmat and also at Places in udil and the Desa ranges.

Due to heavy lopping for fodder these forest have been degraded but are being replaced by Deodar forests, particularly in the Chorusu forests of the Kishtawar range and the Cheon Forest of the Billawar range. 12/C1/6.

MORU OAK FOREST; (QUERCUS DILATATA)

In Jammu region these forests are not very well developed but still occur along with Deodar which constitutes one of the most important and most extensive of the moist temperate forest. The Moru oak is developed over unexposed sites, infact it is mesophytic in character. *Quercu dilatata* is well developed. In the Marmat and the Thakrai ranges of the Doda forest division between 2000 to 2500m. Moru Oak is well represented with in its altitudinal limit in the Billawar forest division. In the Udhampur forest division *Quercus dilatata* is generally founded in and around "Chaks" which exist in a dotted fashion throughout the natural habitat of the species. *Quercus dilatuta* is found stretching over large areas from Chir Zone to the Fir Zone in the Reasi Forest Division. Although these forests are not very well developed in the region, still Moru Oak is found in the Loran valley, Behramgala and the Basoli range, Lothra in the Basantgarh range, the Neru and the Bhallsh ranges. These forests too are heavily looped for

fodder. The other important plants growing in its association are; *Cedrus deodara*, *Abies pindrow*, and *Pinus wallichiana*. Besides these conifer species some broad leaved species are *Quercus inca*, *Ulmus wallichiana*, *Fraxinus excelsior* and *cedrela senata* etc.

12/C¹/E. *Moist deodar Forests* : This is by far the most important forests type found in the region. It occurs extensively all over the state on all geological formations having well drained soils and receiving an annual rainfall between 1100-1800 mm. It has been observed that deodar forests in the Jammu region have a tendency of developing into a pure crop. This may not be taken as a matter of rule, as deodar has also been found with other species too. Regeneration in this type is excellent but is handicapped in Dohu-infested areas such as the Udil range of the Doda Forest Division.

In the Poonch and Rajouri Forest Division, deodar is absent except the patches of pole crop in Sawajjan near Poonch and in few places in the Loran valley. There is sufficient evidence to show that deodar was fairly common in the Loran valley but has not now has been exterminated,. Moti Mahal and other Historic buildings in Pooch are made of deodar from the Loran valley. In the Reasi Division deodar is found in small quantity. The Dooda the Bhadarwah and Kishtawar Forest Division of the Chenab circle are famous for the development of best quality deodar in the entire Jammu region. In the Basoli and

Basantgarh ranges of the Billawar forest division deodar occurs between 1500 to 2600 m. Small patches are also found at Kaled, Kandil Uroda and Cheu in the Billawar ranges.

Although deodar has a tendency to grow as a pure crop yet it cannot be taken as a rule because some other conifers, more commonly the Blue Pine, as well as broad leaved species also grow along with it. Other conifers associated with deodar in the region are spruce and fir while *Quercus incana*, *Quercus dilatata* etc. are among the broad leaves companions of deodar.

12/C₁/d *Western mixed conifer forest*: The type occurs above Deodar Zone between 2400 to 3000 m and requires a rainfall between 1000 to 1300 mm. It has a capability of growing on all type of rocks.

As the name indicates, this sub-type consists of mixed conifer species such as silver fir, spruce, blue pine and deodar. Many areas of the Chenab valley are occupied by this type as well as the Dudu and Basantgarh ranges, where these species are found to a larger extent. In the Jammu region the Moru Oak and Kharshoo oak are the two major broad leaved associates of the type.

12/C₁/e *Moist temperate deciduous forest*: These forests occasionally interrupt fir forests and are mainly associated with fir and high level deodar forests. Sohan Singh opines that these

forests are found mainly in shady depressions from 1800 to 2700 m. Moreover, they grow along the streams throughout the temperature belt of the region. High rainfall is a boon for this type; consequently it is found in the Bhaderwah forest division, sinpora in udil, Cool in the Reasi division. The important common species associated with the type are *Aesculus indica*, *Juglan regia*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Acar spp.* *Prunus padas*, *Ulmus wallichiana*, *Papulus ciliate* *Salix wallichiana* and *celtis australis*.

12/C₁/f Low level blue pine forest: The main species of the type happens to be *Pinus wallichiana*, (Blue pine). These forests occur in association with some types such as Ban oak and Mom oak. The type is also represented in the Western Mixed conifer forests. It thrives and colonises the blank areas and grassy slopes. These blanks and grossy slopes are caused either by biotic or natural factors but Kail or Blue Pine thrives on them Patches of Kail of various dimentions if found nearly every where in the temperate zone of the Jammu region.

12/C₁/DS₁ Oak Scrub: Oak scrubs are represented by *Rhododendron arboreum*, *Pieris orelifobe*, and *Pyrus pashia*. It is believed that due to heavy grazing, coupled with lopping for fodder, trees like ban oak and Morn oak gradually disappeared and gave place to the above mentioned species which are nothing but degraded oak forests. The examples of such type of degradation may be seen everywhere

in the moist temperate zone. To be more specific Dehragali in the Poonch Sudh Mahadev in the Dudu ranse, Siameri in the Billawar, Arnas in the Reasi, and Goha-Assar-Baggar in the Doda forest division are only a few examples.

12/C₁/DS₂ Himalayan temperate secondary scrub: It is rather difficult to differentiate this type from the preceeding one. However, a prominent difference that can be identified is that it occurs more densely and extensively, usually near villages. The type is composed of many broad leaved species. Extensive loppings and grazing, to a large extent has been responsible for its degradation.

12/C₂ Upper West Himalayan Temperate Forest: This type includes three sub-types in Jammu and Kashmir State these are 12/C₂/a, 12/C₂/b and 12/C₂/C. According to Champion only 12/C₂/C type occurs in the state (Region), the other two being absent. But from the observation in the field by the author, it has been noted that all the three sub-types occur here.

12/C₂/a Kharsoo Oak (*Quercus semicarpifolia*): These forests are not extensive and are present on the warmer southwestern aspects, on prominences subject to direct monsoon blasts, at an elevation of about 2700 gm to about 3000 m and usually on the tops of the moist ridges where the elevation of southern ridges is higher than 3000 m and has sheltered the area in the eastern portions. Kharsoo oak, there-

fore, forms a crop but above the limits of conifer belt. Moreover, it has a tendency to merge with the alpine zone at certain places. Sohan Singh does not agree with the altitudinal range of this type as mentioned by Mir and Tickh. He opines that Khar-soo ok grows between 2700 m and 3300 m. These forests in the Jammu region are found at Sarthal Basantgarh, Dasa etc. The other important species associates with type are *Betula utilis*, *Phododeu-drou barbatim* etc.

12/C₂/b *West Himalyan Oak fir forests*: This type also known as sub-alpine forests, is a degenerated type of fir forests fires. The seeds of deodar and blue pine move down in the fir forest areas where these species exist mixed with fir. Over grazing in the order of the day in this type. The type is represented almost everywhere in the fir zone. The important species of the type are *Quercus semicareifolia*, *Abies piugrow*. *Batula utilis* and *Rhododaxdron barbatum*.

12/C₂/C *Temperate deciduous forest*: The type already stands explained under 12/C₁/c (Moist temperate deciduous forest).

12/DS₂ *Himalayan temperate Parklane*: These Parkland areas in the region are heavily grazed continuous trampling over the years has altered the physical and biological balances of soil and the sites are most unsuitable for tree growth.

Due to the availability of cowdung from the cattle present in the area a great help has come in changing the ground flora. The main plant species in such areas are *urtica dioca* *Girardinia heterophylla* and *Prunus padas*.

12/DS₂ *Himalayan temperate pastures*: This type includes 'Behaks' and 'Dhars' where trees generally do not grow. This, therefore, is a more desraded type than the proceedings one. Grasses completely cover the ground. The pastures are the result of continued human and other biotic interference. Herbaceous flora finds limited place to grow which is completely covered by grasses such pastures exists on the higher altitudes in almost every forest division of the region with the exception of the Jammu and the Kathua soil conservation divisions.

12/IS₁ *Alder Forest*: The most important and common species of the type is *Alnus nitida*. It spreads all along the nallas and depressions in whole of the temperate zone. The important places of its occurences are upper catchment areas of the Raggi nallah and the Assar Nalla in the Marmat range in the Jammu region. The important associates of the type are *Poplus ciliata*, *ulmus wallchiana*, *Celtis Austrialis*, *Sarcococca*, and *Spiroes sarbifolia*.

12/IS₂ *Riverain blue pine forests*: The type in the region occurs so insignificantly as not to deserve any detailed examination.

12/2S₁ *Low level blue pine forest*: These forest from the nature of their origin are typically more or less evenly aged with blue pine strongly predominating. They tend to be dense unless thinned out by fire and have little undergrowth, the ground being covered with layer of needles through which more or less grass and herbeceous growth comes up in summers. The forest fires are frequent in the type, consequently large for last 20 years. In the region this type is subject to the ravages of parents like *Arcenthobium*. The attack is so severe that even some of the samplings are effected.

As regards their distribution these forests are found in Udil and Desa in the Chenab valley area of the Jammu region.

Group 13 Himalayan dry temperate forest:

Champion's group thirteen is not very well-developed in the Jammu region in comparison to its development in the Kashmir region. It is a type which is developed. In areas where summer monsoons are feebly felt and the areas remain dry or get less precipitation than 1000 mm and that to in the form of winter snows. Since dry conditions particularly during the summer monsoon season, prevails only in the inner valleys of Kashmir region, therefore, the type is not well developed in the Jammu region. But still certain types of the

group are represented in different areas of the Jammu region which are described in the following discussion.

13/C₁ *Dry broad leaved and coniferous forest*: This type of open forest of pine mixed with oak and certain other xerophytic species is mainly found in Pador and Dechan area of the Jammu region. Strictly speaking this is the only areas where this type is seen but few traces of the type have been reported by Sohan Singh to be also present near Katal forest rest house in the Doda forest division. Other important species representative of this type in Jammu and Kashmir are *Pinus gerardiana*, *Cedrus deodara*, *Quercus itex*, *Celtis australis*, etc etc. These species except *Pinus gerardiana* grow in the lower portions of the forest belt extending from Kandi to Thakral in the Dode forest division.

13/C₂ *Dry temperate coniferous forest*: The type consist of two sub-type (a) Neoza pine (*Pinus gerardiana*) and (b) dry deodar forest.

13/C₂/a *Neoza pine (Pinus gerardiana)*: Strictly speaking there is hardly any difference either in distribution or in description between this type and the dry broad leaved and conifer forest type (13/C₁). However, in the type under discussion *Quercus itex* is less common and *Pinus wallichiana* is substituted by *Pinus gerardiana* with *Cedrus deodara* association. In addition to it Ban Oak (*Quercus incana*) is replaced by Moru oak (*Quercus dilatata*).

13/C₂/b *Dry Deodar Forest*: This type is mainly found in Podor. The Lower Fringes of Thakrai forest extending up to Chhatru nalla also possesses this type, although neoza pine is absent here.

13/C₂/DS₁ and 13/C₂/DS₂ type names as Pohu Scrub and Dry temperate scrub are not very well represented in the Jammu region. Yet the former is found localised in some portions of Chenab valley and the latter type extends over areas of Kishtawar and Urdil ranges of Chenab valley. Similarly 13/C₃ type — *West Himalayan dry temperate deciduous forest* is not very well developed in the Jammu region and so is the case with 13/C₄ — *West Himalayan High level dry blue pine*. Again 13/1S₁ *Hippohae* — *Myricaria scrubs* are almost absent from the Jammu region although they are well represented in the various

forest divisions of the Kashmir valley due mainly to climatic requirements in general and rainfall and moisture availability reasons in particular.

Suitable environmental conditions are not found in the Jammu region for the development of the forest types belonging to champions groups 14, 15 and 16. However, in certain localities where conditions are optimal for their development. We find their present, although very insignificantly. These groups are fairly well represented in Kashmir region and Gilgit and Drass areas of the State of Jammu and Kashmir where suitable environmental conditions do prevail. In some cases these groups have made their presence felt deep in the Ladakh region where dry and cold conditions are more severely developed than they can be found in the Jammu region.

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22. Champion H.C. and Seth, S.K., *op. cit.*, p. 275.
23. *Ibid.*, p. 276.
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26. Based on verbal discussion with the foresters of different rank in the field.
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II

HISTORY

IMPORTANT SOURCES OF JAMMU HISTORY

In the definition of the sources of history one can say that anything that throws light on the social economic, cultural and political life enjoyed by a society in the past can be considered as its source of history. History of Jammu region can best be reconstructed on the basis of the rich cultural heritage enjoyed by the people of the region. The numerous odes sung in the memory of different heroes of the region and depicting various episodes relating to the social and economic life of the region form an important source of the history of the region. Nevertheless, no systematic work of history taking into consideration the real social, economic and political life of the people of this region has come up as yet. However, as we shall see in the next section of this chapter different people have tried to eulogise the different rulers without writing much about their contribution of the people in respect of Social and Cultural Development. Yet, there were certain rulers who did a lot in this direction.

Jammu and Kashmir, Academy of Art, culture and languages have published many volumes of Dogri folklore which can give an indepth study, in the past observances and customs, the nations, beliefs, traditions, superstitions and prejudices of the common people and have thus preserved them for us in the modern times to form an important source of history. Yet, we have to be very cautious in deriving the conclusions because folklore generally over projects the reality. It is for the historian to find out the truths from these folklore which form important source and yet it can be said that no historian has fully depended upon this source for reconstructing the historical events. However, the odes depicting the valour of the sons of the soils like Babu Jitto, Data Ranpat, Babu Nahar Singh, Babu Surgal and Goddess Vaishno Devi give clue to the social and economic conditions of the people along with their religious belief. Similarly odes pertaining to Mian Dido, Mehta Basti Ram, Wazir Ratnu, General Hoshiara, General Baj Singh, Ram Singh Pathania etc. deserve our social attention

as sources of history of the region. Similarly many odes give clue to the past of this region and are available in the volumes of Dogri folklore.

Archaeological evidences are numerous in this region to through light on the past of this region. In the absence of any large scale invasion of the foreign rulers in this region, these evidences are least disturbed. Some odd historical places in Rajouri, Poonch, Udhampur and Jammu can tell a lot about the past history of the region. Similarly some priceless specimens of art in the form of idol of different Hindu deities of 7th and 8th Century which form the proud pieces of Bhuri Singh Muslim of Chamba and Dogra Art Gallery Jammu can tell a lot about the inhabitants of the region. Moreover, these pieces of art are able to tell us about some of the links of the history of the region.

Paintings of the Jammu region are famous not only in India but throughout the world. The Basoli School of painting has its own place in the world. The different research papers by Dr. M.S. Randhawa on Dogra Art (paintings deserve special mention to serve as a source of history of Jammu. Similarly, W.C. Archer while writing on 'sikh paintings' made elaborate mention of Dogra art as well which form a source of history. The coins preserved in various museums can also through light on the history of the past although their number is quite limited. Yet the role of the coins is

reconstructing the historical links is not only important but is significant also. The coins of Hindu Shahi Rajas in particular form a suitable source of the history of Jammu region. However, the coins play a limited role of knowing the names of the rulers but beyond that they fail to through light on any other aspect of social, cultural and economic conditions. And yet their role as mentioned, is in no way insignificant. Nevertheless it is important to note that not much archaeological investigation have been carried out to investigate the past and thus there exist a lot more possibility of finding not only the coins of the past but various other sources of history would come to light, if and when archaeological investigation are carried any further. But it is certain that a lot more success can be achieved if archaeological researches are conducted to find out the coins which would help the historians to write the historical events on more scientific basis.

Organisation of space in relation to its governance always shows temporal variations. This, therefore, necessitates to study the historical geography to comprehend changing spatial boundaries of the different rulers at different times. At the names of the places undergo changes over the time so is the case with the names of certain tribes. This fact makes the knowledge of historical geography all the more indispensable for writing an authentic historical accounts. But the

historians of this region can surely depend upon the ancient literature for understanding the geography of the region in order to understand its history. The Rig Veda for instance mentions about the cool breeze and crystal clear waters of many rivers flowing in the Jammu region. The name of the important rivers mentioned in the Rig Veda are those of Chandrabhaga (Now Chenab), Udd (now Ujh), Devka and Basantar. Even in Mahabharata we find mentions of Jammu region. Panini the great grammarian's works have thoroughly been studied now. We find the names of various places of Jammu region in his works, also. Thus we find the mentions about the names of various rivers different places and fine cool breeze of Jammu region in different religious and ancient literature books which can form a source material for writing the historical accounts of the ancient period of this region.

Accounts of various travellers of Greek or China origin also through light on the ancient history and geography of Jammu region. But the most important travel accounts are that of Al-Bahrooni. He gave an elaborate geographical accounts of the routes, distances and the places of Jammu region. And yet it can be said about this and many other travelogues that they need a careful scrutiny before they can be taken as a sources of history of this region. Nevertheless their

importance as a source of historical accounts is not significant.

Apart from these historical sources there are certain written records which give ample insight into the historical developments of Jammu region. The notable among these works are as under:-

1. *Mulfazate Timuri* by Shah Nawaz Khan.
2. *Tarekh-E-Mubarak Shahi* by Yahiya-bin-Ahmed.
3. *Tarekh-E-Mohammed Shahi* by Yusuf Mohammed Khan.
4. *Tarekh-E-Feroz Shahi* by Zia-ud-din Barni.
5. *Tabqat-E-Akbari* by Nizamuddin Ahmed.
6. *Aain-E-Akbari* by Abdul Fazal
7. *Akbar Nama* by Abdul Fazal.
8. *Alamgir Nama* by Mohammed Kasim.
9. *Badshah Nama* by Abdul Hamid Lohri.
10. *Shah Fateh Kangra* by Mohammed Jalal Tribtiba.
11. *Tarekh-E-Daudi* by Abdullah.

Persian Books (Manuscripts Handwritten)

Author	Title
1. Dewan Ayodhya Prasad	<i>Vakya-E-Jung-E-Sikhan</i> (Punjab University, Chandigarh)
2. Mufti Ali-ud-din	<i>Ibarat Nama</i> (Khalsa college library Amritsar).
3. Kanheya Lal Hindi	<i>Ranjit Nama</i> (Punjab University Lahore).
4. Raja Ram Tota	<i>Gulgushat Punjab</i> (Punjab State Archieve, Patiala).
5. Gulam Muhi-ud-din	<i>Tarekh-E-Punjab</i> (Punjab University Library, Lahore).
6. Rattan Chand	<i>Khalsa Nama</i> (Punjab State Archieve Patiala).
7. Anonymous	<i>Akhbarat-E-Sikhan</i> (University Lahore).
8. Maulvi Ahmad Bakshi Chisti (Yakdil)	<i>Roznamcha</i> (with the descendent of Maulvi at Lahore, Pakistant).
9. Maulvi Rajab Ali	<i>Roznamcha Vol. I,II and III</i> Punjab State Archieve, Patiala).

In the last few centuries, a considerable historical literature was created. Some of these books are important sources of writing the history of Jammu region. It is because of the fact that these books depict the social, economic and political conditions of the people living in the Jammu region. The books are available in Persian, Urdu, Hindi and English languages.

Important among these works are listed below:-

In addition to these manuscripts the following published books in Persian form an important source to write the history of Jammu region.

AUTHOR TITLE

1. Md. Abdul Karim *Tarekh-E-Punjab* (1848)

2. Anonymous *Tawarekh-E-Rajgane Hindore* (1862).
3. Kanhaya Lal Hind *Zafar Name-E-Punjab* (1876).
4. Sohan Lal Suri *Umdat-ut-Tawarekh* (1885)
5. Dewan Kirpa Ram *Gulab nama* (1876)
6. Lala Ganesh Das *Rajdarshni*.
Vadehra

Similarly there are some important books written in both Urdu and Hindi languages. Some of these books listed below are important source material for writting the history of Jammu region.

1. Th. Kahan Singh Baloria	<i>Tarekh-E-Rajputan-E-Mulk-E-Punjab.</i>
2. Th. Khan Singh Baloria	<i>Tarekh-E-Rajgan-E-Jamwal.</i>
3. Mian Raghunath Singh	<i>Tarekh-E-Rajgan-E-Pathania.</i>
4. Sardar Hardayal Singh	<i>Majma-E-Twarikh-E-Riyasat-Hai-Kohistan-E-Punjab.</i>
5. Devi Prasad	<i>Tarekh-E-Gulshan-E-Punjab (Bareilly 1850).</i>
6. Gian Singh Giani	<i>Tarekh-E-Guru Khalsa 3 Vol. (Sialkot 1893).</i>
7. Kanhaya Lal	<i>Tarekh-E-Lahore (1884).</i>
8. Kanhaya Lal	<i>Tarekh-E-Punjab (1881).</i>
9. Raja Shive Prasad	<i>Sikhon Ka Taluk-o-Garoob (Lucknow 1888).</i>
10. Mohamad Latif	<i>Tarekh-E-Punjab (Lahore 1888).</i>
11. Mohammad-ul-Din	<i>Mukamal Tarekh Kashmir 4 Vol. (Lahore 1912).</i>
12. Balwant Singh	<i>Tarekh-E-Sikh-Raj (Amritsar)</i>

In addition to these sources of history there are numerous reports sent to Governor General by the secret agents appointed for the purpose. These secret reports are valuable source material for writing the social and economic conditions of the people of Jammu region. Similarly many letters and private diaries of different people holding important position in the government through considerable light on the history of the region. Such records are safe in the records office of the Punjab Government of Pakistan at Lahore.

Similarly, National Archives of India, possesses sufficient material for writing about the history of (among other region) Jammu region. The important among them are i) Punjab Akhbarat (Punjab Newspapers) 1939-41 along with secret reports written

by the secret agent of the Governor General of India, situated at Ludhiana. ii) Punjab Intelligence (1844) in 349 parts. Dr. H.R. Gupta published some of those selected parts which through considerable light on the history of Jammu region iii) The manuscripts -- parts 351, 352, 206 and 128. These parts are significant because they contain information regarding geographic and economic conditions of the region.

Again Punjab State Archives Patiala have sufficient collection of resource material for writing history of Jammu region.

He can also find valuable resource material to write the history of Jammu region in many places in England and Scotland. These records are available from 'The British Museum'. 'The public record Office London' and

'Commonwealth Relationship Department, London'.

Thus the sources of history of Jammu region are scattered far and wide but they are numerous of late the research department of Jammu and Kashmir state has obtained as "Mur-aslat-E-Mulki-o-Siyasi" in Persian.

Thus we see that the resource material for historical writings is spread, as mentioned earlier, far and wide. There is, therefore, a great need to consolidate all this material at a suitable place so that meaningful historical interpretations can be drawn on the scientific lines. This would help us to know much more about the history of Jammu region.

The History-from Pre-Historic to modern times. Pre-History of any region can best be reconstructed from the evidences preserved in the form of tools, places of dwellings and their structure and belonging of the pre-historical man etc. All these evidence, as well all know, are collected by the people engaged in Archeological studies of any region. The physical characteristics of Jammu region, particularly in the pre-historical times with numbers of rivers at that too perennials, flowing through the region which was very well stocked with thick forest cover and included a number of animal species, which found the part of human diet at that time, presented a suitable environment for the man to inhabit this region. This is what has been proved by the little excavation work

done by the Archeological Survey of India in this region.

From the excavations it appears that the man was inhabiting the entire Siwalik area of the Jammu region right from the period historians, archaeologist and geologists name it as a stone age. This is what one can draw the conclusions from the primitive type of stone age tools that have been located in the Jammu region. The tools so discovered have been compared to the tools found in the Soan valley now located in Pakistan near Ravalpindi hence are termed as Soanian tools.

Soanian pebble sites in the Jammu region are spread over entire outer plains region and if sometimes extends itself into the outer Siwalik belts as well. The Soanian pebble sites, for instance in the Jammu district alone are found at Nagrota situated on the bank of Twi and Koota in the Samba Tehsil of Jammu district situated on the banks of Bein which have yielded stone age tool like coppers, scrapers and discoids.

Similarly, At Lakhanpur some sites of pleistocene Age I.E. the most new period extending from 3,00,000 to 30,000 years from today were discovered. A large number of similar tools were found at Kurro, Pingani and Tarra which include pre-soan type of huge flakes, rolled early Soan unifacial pebble choppers and flakes which are heavily covered on the entire surface with a coating of dark colour, usually red, a proof of their great age.

Pebble tools and flakes were also picked up at the neighbouring villages of Mali and Jagatpur.

In the Kathua district also similar early stone age tools were collected from the bed of Basantar just near Samba and at Nandi, Mananu and Palth which yielded more than fifty pebble tools of various description including discoids, flakes and cores....

The region around the village Sutam on the right bank of Basantar river has also yielded early stone age tools comprising a bifacial hand axe, unifacial choppers, scrapers, discoids and flakes".

Again a few more sites particularly the southern slopes of Siwaliks, can be identified where early stone age tools were found. An important such site which deserves our attention is the Gambhir Khad situated at a short distance from village Kishanpur Nagrota. The stone age tools that were discovered included".....bifacial hand axe on quartz which show considerable rolling. The working edge and pointed end of this tool are rounded and it shows a yellowish or creamy Patina."

All these discoveries of stone age implements from different places in the Jammu region point, beyond any reasonable doubt to the fact that a primitive human society thrived over the Jammu region corresponding to the period of Soan valley culture. Besides the presence of the fossil remains

of animals like elephants, horses, pigs, hippo-Potamus etc. indicate that these animals were the natural partner of early man of this region. In this course of time the early man wandering in the Jammu region seems to have undergone a cultural change by indulging in the primary activities like rearing of animals and cultivation of soil. This is almost confirmed by the discoveries of pottery pieces from the places like Jhiri, Akhnoor and some other places in the region by the Archaeological Survey of India." According to the explorations conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India the material belonging to the Harappan culture and to the early historical periods has been discovered from various sites spread over the entire Jammu region but more particularly along the river banks.

It is, thus, clear that human occupation of Jammu region dates back to the pre-historical time from Soanian culture to Harappan culture evidence for which are spread in the entire region in the form of stone age, pre-stone age and Harappan age tools of a various size, shape and type along with pottery.

Another important source to capture the glimpses of the ancient history of the region is the classical literature such as Vedas, Mahabharat and various Puranas like Nilmata Purana etc. etc. The mention of the Himalaya and its different subdivisions in Nilmata purana is indicative of human settlement in the entire

Jammu region. The mention of various river flowing in this region in the classical literature shows the importance of these rivers from the human welfare, point of views." According to the 'Vishnu Purana' the famous *tirtha*, pur, now called Pur-mandal in Jammu region is located on the bank of Devika. Apanga is another river of Jammu region mentioned in the Nil-mata and earlier works....". Similarly the mention of Ujh Ravi, Bein etc. etc. is no less important in these books of classical literature.

Early inhabitants of Jammu region were not the Aryans. The region was inhabited by aboriginals to whom Charrak (1985) identifies as the predecessors of modern Domb or (Dum), Batwals and Mehgs the so-called people of low castes. These tribes find mention in the ancient literature as the people of dark skin worshipping Shishna and occupying the sub-mountainous area of the region particularly the upper reaches of the river Ravi called at that time as Parushini. The study of Rigveda reveals further that these dark skinned people offered considerable resistance to the Aryan invaders for not less than forty years. So much so that the Aryans were forced to invoke Lord Indira for many a times to over come the resistance. According to the scholars like J. Przyluski these low caste people inhabited this region at least 700 B.C. and even these people were not of Indian origin. This area was known as Madra Desh' at that time after the

name of four children of Vayusi-tasava who according to a legend had seven children from his wife. The other three were named as Salavas. This 'Madra Desh' was quite extensive lying between Indus and Satluj. It is interesting to note that in Mahabharata it is mentioned that river Devika, which retains its ancient name till date, has its origin in 'Madra Desh'. This vast territory obviously should have been from administrative point of view, divided in various regions and sub-region. The Jammu region seems to have been divided into Darva, Abhisara, Khasha, Udumbara etc. divisions. But the Jammu region was governed by the decedents of Vayusi-tasava called Salva and Madras with many more smaller tribes having their own republics, "Of these the name of Darvas, Abhisaras, Khasas, Gurjaras and Durgaras have been preserved in the written records, from pre-christian areas to about tenth century A.D."

Darvabhisara find mention as the tribes of Punjab in Mahabharata and Puranas, Daranashisaras is also associated with the Country lying between Ravi and Jhelum. But Jai Chandra identifies the country of Darvas as Jammu and Balour region. Khasas on the other hand occupied the inner valleys of middle mountain region of Jammu. The Himalayas lying south of modern Pir Panjal range Gurjaras found two powerful kingdoms one with Kanauj as its capital and the other in the north western part of Punjab with Sialkot

as its capital. Gurjaras during their pay days entered the Jammu region with Durgadas. The Durgadas or Duggars and lately known as Dogras occupied the territory between Chandrabhaya (Chenab) and Irvati (Ravi). They formed a state Jammu and Bhan. But it seems that Basohli was the most earliest state formed in this region for its finds and frequent mentions in Rajatarangini finds the name of Vallapura, Bhaderwah was another branch of Vallapura, Bhaderwah was another branch of Vallapura and finds its mention in Rajatarangini as Bhadrivaksa. Similarly many more name of the region find their mention in the Rajatarangini particularly the Kishatawar.

Looking at the history of Jammu region from the traditional angle we have to depend heavily on the narrations in the Rajadarshni written in Persian by Ganesh Dass Wadehra. According to Rajadarshi Jammu was founded 550 years before the beginning of the Kalijuga the era of machines. The Jammu at that time too is described to have been a vast area lying between Ravi and Chenab and bounded on the north by the Siwaliks and was ruled by Raja Agnigarbh who was a powerful chief. He was blessed by eighteen sons who were equally powerful and helped Agnigarbh to extend the area of their rule beyond Tawi. The Agnigarbh had his capital at Airava on the banks of river Irvati (Ravi).

After the death of Agnigarbh his eldest son Bahulochan succeeded him. He made a significant decision of changing his capital from Airva to a place situated at the left bank of river Tawi, known at that time as Daranagri and established a settlement called Bahu Nagar and constructed the Bahu fort at Bahu-Nagar. According to Charrak the establishment of this new state near another strong State of Madradesh with capital at Sialkot already existing must have resulted in conflicts over the territorial and other rights and disputes. The struggle between these two states inflicted several set-backs to the Duggars from already entrenched ancient state of Sakalas which is identified with Sialkot. But it goes to the credit of Jambulochan to change the capital at a more central place than Airava, to establish a new settlement, convert it in to his capital and construct a huge fort, named after himself only, which stands till this day.

Bahulochan was succeeded by his younger brother Jambulochan after his death for he (Bahulochan) died issueless. This brave son of the soil managed to crush the Raja Chandra has of Sialkot and annexed his kingdom. He further extended the boundaries of his principality by bringing Hazara and other territories of Punjab up to the borders of Sind. Jambulochan like his elder brother was not satisfied about the placement of his capital. He wanted to change his capital from Bahunagari to some other

suitable place. But he was not finding a suitable place for the purpose. It is said that one day when he was on hunting expedition in the nearby forests he was a deer and a tiger drinking water at the same pond. On his surprised enquiry he was told that the soil of the place is peace loving and the resident creatures do not have enmity with each other neither they harbour any ill will against each other. Raja Jambulochan was highly impressed and a good soul in him decided to establish a settlement in and around that pond with a eye on peace, harmony and virtues to be showered on the settlement in future. He founded a new settlement and named it after his own name is Jambupura.

The pond from which the deer and tiger were drinking water is said to have been located at a place now called Purai mandi. But there is another view also about the establishment of Jammu town. Some people believe in the traditions that there was a huge cave at the right bank of river Tawi which was attributed to Jamwant. After the foundation of the town in the natural process it was named as Jammu after Jamwant. However, the territory of the Jammu region was ruled by Jambulochan about 2500 B.C. Jambulochan had only one son. Puran Karan who seems to have shifted from Bahu-nagar to the newly founded settlement of Jammu by his father Jambulochan. Puran Karan had two sons names Daya Karan and Dharam Karan. Puran Karan sent his elder son

Daya Karan to control the Kashmir which he did effectively and ruled the Kashmir himself and restored order in that land in such a way that it was easy for fifty five Rajas after him to rule Kashmir for a period of 653 years. The last Raja of this line to have ruled Kashmir was Raja Som Datt.

On the other hand Puran Karan who was the second son of Dharam Karan ruled Jammu and was succeeded by Kirat Karan, Agni Karan and Shakti Karan. But with the defeat of Raja Shal again of Sialkot, there came an end to the line of Rajas. It was after many centuries that the descendants of Raja Shiv Prakash namely Raja Jyoti Prakash and Sarva Prakash defeated the aboriginals and reoccupied their lost Raj. Although Raja Jyoti Prakash and Sarava Prakash claimed to have been the direct descendants of Raja Shiv Prakash with whom the line of Rajas belonging Jambulochan dynasty ended yet it is believed by some (Charrak) that they belonged to separate dynasty and may have claimed the connection with Jambulochan so that their right on the Jammu Raj is not challenged by any one. Thus the territories of Jammu Raj were restored back to the descendant of Jambulochan but it was Jai Prakash or Jai Singh which is considered to be the third descendant of Jyoti Prakash who attacked Sialkot and conquered it. This seems to mark an end of conflicts between two major and neighbouring dynasties of north-west Indian during the Pre-historic period. Raja Jai

Prakash or Jai Singh ruled the area for about fifty years. Jai Singh followed by as many as about fifteen Rajas ruling the region for periods ranging between 20 to 50 years till we reach the last of them known as Bodh Arjan. Succession of these Rajas has been given by both by Ganesh Dass Wadehra in his "Rajdarshni" and Kahan Singh Balaoria in his work *Thakur-i-Rajgan Jammu wa Kashmir*. Although with some variations which can conveniently be omitted here for they do not matter much in understanding the totality of historical glimpses of an era which is a part of pre-history. Now we are in an era of early history of Jammu with both Arjan as a descendant of Jambulochan, the founder of modern Jammu city, as a ruler.

EARLY HISTORY -- FROM THE FIRST HISTORICAL DYNASTY

Both Arjan gained fame because of his deeds. He considered his subjects equal to his children which resulted in confidence loyalty, piece and progress during his reign. According to the author of *Rajdarshni* Bodh Arjan conquered many areas in the east and south. The claims of conquering the area towards south up to Sri Lanka seems very hard to believe but one can easily believe is that during the period of Bodh Arjan's reign the public was happy and prosperous. City of Jammu expanded in every direction, many temples were constructed and gardens laid in the city increased its beauty. Under such like peaceful and congenial conditions, it was ob-

vious that the population grew in large number. This dynasty of Bodh Arjan ruled the Jammu and areas conquered by it for about 357 years.

It was during the reign of Raja Raj Vallabh who was descendant of Bodh Arjan that a powerful Raja of Kangra-Nagarkot-Raja Mangal Chand moved his forces towards the prosperous Jammu reign and killed Raj Vallabh of Jammu. This happened around 450 B.C. The death of Raja Raj Vallabh was accompanied by the death of all his sons. The garden laid Jammu city was raised to ground all its beauty was destroyed. Although Bhanu Jakh, who ruled Bharakh at that time was a cousin of Raja Raj Vallabh, on hearing the plight of his cousin and his dynasty moved his forces towards Jammu and was successful in killing the Raja Mangal Chand yet he was unable the back the glory of Jammu it had before it was attacked and captured by Raja Mangal Chand. Nevertheless, Bhanu Jakh tried to rebuild the Jammu but failed to reach that level of development because of various factors. One important factor was the fear of powerful kangra rulers and other was the frequent raids conducted by the Chieftains of nearly Punjab area which resulted in an atmosphere of uncertainty, the people of Jammu were not sure about their future and lacked confidence in the capacity of their successive rulers to protect them from outside raids. This situation continued for many years. "During this period and probably immediately after Raj Vallabh, the

sovereignty of Jammu passed away and it was reduced to a small principality ruled by local Ranas, under the suzerainty either of Salva-Madras of Sialkot or the Takshaks of Texila Raj Vallabh's sons and successor was reduced to the status of a small Rana of Jammu where his successors Bhanu Yaksha, Samundar Yaksha, Singh Haran, Mriga Haran, Karma Varma, Jaykar, Dev Kar and Adi-verah ruled one after the other as vassals of Takshila house or possibly of the Hukhamnashyas of Gandhara".

In the meanwhile the region saw many developments in which different dynasties fought between themselves and Jammu remained in unimportant and at a subordinate position. According to Charrack...."the line of the kings who followed are said to have ruled over Jammu, probably from Gandhara and have been considered by some to have belonged to a family different ruling dynasty..... These kings are Damodar Dutt, Udey Chand Lakhan Chand, Samudra-Bhushan, Jagat Singh, Bhagat Singh, alias Shakti Bhushan, Gajey Singh, Ajay Singh, Dev Gupta, Ram Gupta, Chandra Gupta, Nand Gupta."

This dynasty ruled Jammu peacefully for quite sometime. It was at a time when Ajay Singh was ruling, that Raja Puru or Purva, to whom the Greek historians called Poros, wanted him to accept his subjugation which was refused by Raja Jai Singh. He, therefore, had to fight a battle with Raja Poros and was taken as a pris-

oner. The daughter of Poros developed a liking for him which resulted in their marriage and restoration of his Principality. In the latter years, it is believed, that Raja Jai Singh was killed while fighting with the forces of Raja Poros -- his father-in-law against the Alexander. However, on the advice of some well wisher Ajay Singh's son Hijay Singh met Alexander and requested him to restore to him his father's principality. His request was accepted and he again became the ruler of Jammu. The descendant of Raja Bijay Singh ruled the state till the end of this dynasty with the death of Nand Gupta--the last in this dynasty.

After the death of Nand Gupta, there seems to be some sort of power struggle in which Rai Kings emerge victorious. These Rai King were the sons of the soil and it is believed that Jammu again acquired independence. This happened somewhere in the middle of first century B.C. the first king who ruled Jammu is was Adi Rai. He according to the historians Adi Rai accepted to the power in the year 58 B.C. and ruled for about forty-eight years and was succeeded by his son Dev Rai who made Jammu as his capital.

Dev Rai was succeeded by his son Gandharb Rai round about 40 A.D. and ruled over the Raj for 35 years. He was succeeded by his son Kadam Rai who ruled for about 46 years to be succeeded by his son Karam Raj in the year 124 AD. Karam Raj was

buried alive along with his newly born daughter as she was declared to be inauspicious for him long before she was born. Karam Raj before being buried alive ruled for about eighty years. His descendants Kehar Rai (or Khir Rai) ruled for 25 years. After him came Khakhar Rai to rule for about 32 years. Kakhar Rai was succeeded by Sind Rai in about 260-61 A.D. Sind Rai fought many battles to curb the habit of matter principalities occupying difficult terrain in the mountain ranges to revolt against the Rai dynasty rule at Jammu. Sind Rai, subjugated them all and also fought against the rulers of Babaor, who according to their claim were Chanderwanshi Rajputs, and killed his contemporary Raja Padam Rai. Sind Rai ruled successfully for 50 years and extended the boundaries of his Raj. His son Jagat Rai succeeded him to rule for a shorter span of 20 years only. Jagat Rai was succeeded by his son Dudh Rai to rule for a still shorter period for 12 years. Sind Rai ruled up to 310 A.D., therefore, the rule of his grandson Dush Rai might have ended around 342 A.D.

After Dudh Rai, the picture of Jammu rulers becomes hazy. They were according to Charak, subjected to some big powers of the north-western India. However, Charak quoting Kahan Singh Balauria revives the missing link from the data of accession of Raja Fog Raj. According to Kahan Singh Balauria Raja Jog Rai succeeded to the throne somewhere around 427. Of the two sons Jog Rai had, the eldest ruled over Sialkot. His

name of Malhan Hans, Malhan Hans had quite a number of sons. Son in order to give them number of Jagirs. As the time passed and their off spring grew in large numbers they were left with no alternative to resort to agriculture. The villages which Raja Malhan Hans offered to his sons as Jagirs were situated on either side of river Chenab. These descendants of Malhan Hans are now known as Manhal Rajputs.

Raja Jog Rai on the other hand was succeeded by his younger son Suraj Dhar or Suraj Hansin 430 A.D. and thus a beginning of Dhar dynasty. This Dhar dynasty ruled Jammu for about 390 years spread over generations. Suraj Dhar was loved by his subjects for the good qualities he possessed and ruled for about 56 years before he died in about 490 A.D. Suraj Dhar was succeeded by his son Ganga Dhar who also ruled for about forty-five years. Ganga Dhar was succeeded by his son named Devala Dhar in 535 A.D. and ruled for about 50 years.

On the other hand it seems very interesting to note the origin of Charak Rajput clan of the present day. It is believed that Raja Suraj Dhar got two sons only after praying goddess Kalka. He prayed to the deity that if he got two sons he would offer one to the Goddess and after getting the two sons by the grace of the Goddess offered his younger son Sojla Dhar to Goddess Kalka. The off springs of Suraj Dhar, therefore, become Charaks. The word 'Charak' stands for 'offered'

and thus we see that how two important Rajput clans of Jammu got their names; one Manhas and other 'Charak' after certain important happenings.

Suraj Dhar and his descendants ruled Jammu till 845 A.D. He was succeeded, as mentioned earlier, by Ganga Dhar who in turn was succeeded by Devala Dhar and the line of succession after him included Sarabla Dhar, Kirat Dhar, Ajay Dhar, Bijay Dhar, and Bajar Dhar, who was the last ruler of Dhar dynasty in Jammu and ruled up to 845 A.D. The developments at Delhi influenced the working and fate of Jammu Rajas. It seems that Bajar Dhar lost the support of Delhi ruler named Baldev Chohan and as a result of it he made Bajar Dhar's stay at Jammu difficult. Consequent upon it he left Jammu for Garh Babaor and spent the last years of his life there and died in about 850 A.D. No sooner did he leave Jammu another dynasty was shapping itself to possess the reign of Jammu Raj. As a result of it a new dynasty seemed to have born. The period around 850 when Raja Bajar Dhar died is marked by many political and military events, responsible for many changes in these fields. The invasion of Hindu kingdoms ruling at that time in and around Kabul by the Arabs not only influenced the Kabul but also its dependencies particularly in the northwestern Punjab, consequent upon these developments some Khokhars and Gujjars seemed to have migrated

and in turn influenced the rulers of the hilly areas. Bajar Dhar the last ruler of Dhar dynasty of Jammu, perhaps could not face these difficulty situation being a very weak ruler.

At this time a new dynasty assumed power of the Dogra Raj at Jammu. Although it is named as a 'Dev' dynasty because of the fact that the name of the every ruler ended with suffix 'dev' yet charak quoting Vansavali asserts that the first ruler of 'Dev' dynasty-Suraj Dev was the son of last ruler of Dhar dynasty-Bajar Dhar. Hence the continuation of the same clan.

Suraj Dev may be considered as a first ruler of 'Dev' dynasty and he seemed to have assumed the reign of governance about 815 A.D. and yet Charak believes that the last ruler of Dhar dynasty died in 850 A.D. However, Suraj Dev was a brave and able administrator. He effected many change in the administration of his Kingdom by appointing ministers for different Departments. He used to get information from one on his seven ministers with different portfolios every day and thereby enable himself with the developments taking place in his kingdom. It is believed that Raja Suraj Dev went to help a Hindu Shahiya ruler of Gazni when the latter was attacked by Sultan Mohammed in about 850 A.D. Suraj Dev was captured and killed.

Suraj Dev was followed by his son Bhoj Dev who ruled by for nearly sev-

enty years and died in a battle with the Muslim invaders in the year 982-83 A.D. From this fact it can very easily be concluded that Bhoj Dev succeeded to the 'gaddi' of the Jammu Raj in about 912 A.D.

Bhoj Dev had two wives from whom he got four sons. But the distribution of sons between his wives was uneven. His son Karan Dev was from his one wife and remaining three-Avtar Dev, Kharak Dev and Pahlad Dev from his second wife. He in order to eliminate any possible fight between his son for the accession, he separated the dependency of Banehr and installed Karan Dev as its Raja. One of the future descendants of Karan was Manak Dev after whose name this principality was named as Manak Kot or simply Mankot. Thus the descendant of Raja Manak Dev are now known as Mankotia Rajputs. But on the Jammu gaddi, the second son of Raja Bhoj Dev namely Atar Dev, succeeded, Raja Atar Dev like his father Bhoj Dev maintained good friendly relations with Hindu rulers of Kabul-the Shahis. When the Shahis were attacked by Mahmud, Atar Dev sent his brother Pahlad Dev who fought near Peshawar in 1001 A.D and was killed. Charak quoting many authentic sources is of the view that Jaipal, the ruler of Kabul was given refuge by Atar Dev and was allowed to live in Basoli. This perhaps offended Mahmud who became hostile and moved towards Siwaliks and took Raja of Mangash as prisoner after ravaging many foots. Raja Atar Dev sent

his brother Kharak Dev and son Nar Dev of face the forces of Mahmud. The Dogra forces under the able leadership of Nar Dev and Kharak Dev laid an ambush and defeated Mahmud's forces. It is believed all the smaller principalities like that of Kish-tawar, Kangra, Chamba, Basoli etc. fought on the side of Raja of Jammu.

Raja Atar Dev after ruling for one forty-four years died around 1020 A.D. to be succeeded by his son Jas Dev who happened to be the eldest of his sons. Jas Dev created a new settlement in the Jammu hills which was named after him and is now as known as Jasrota. Raja Jas Dev gave the principality of Jasrota to his brother Karan Dev. Descendant of Jasrota Rajputs. After the death of Jas Dev in about 1053, his eldest son Sangram Dev succeeded him. History has not recorded much about Sangram Dev rule but he was famous for his love for justice. After Sangram Dev his son Chak or Chakar Dev succeeded him at a time when the Muhammedan invasion in Punjab and elsewhere because quite frequent and the entire belt remained almost in turmoil for quite some time. Chak or Chakar Dev was succeeded by him son Baj Dev or Bajaj Dev. He ruled for nearly 51 years and was succeeded by his son Narsingh Dev in about 1220 A.D. and ruled for 30 years and followed by Arjan Dev his son who ruled from 1250 to 1310 A.D. He was also able to curb the rebellion of Bhalwats of Bhalwalta. Raja Jodh Dev ruled after Raja Arjan Dev i.e. after 1310 A.D and was a contem-

porary of Feroj Shah of Delhi. Charak after analysing the various dates given by different historians reaches to the conclusion that Jodh Dev was succeeded by his son Mal Dev somewhere between 1332 to 1361 as there is some confusion about his succession to the Gaddi of Dogra Raj. Mal Dev was one of the ablest, powerful and brave Raja of Jammu. He was responsible for extending the boundaries of his kingdom on all sides. It was during Mal Dev's reign that the Khokhas, the rulers of Lahore and Delhi became hostile to him due to the peculiar circumstances that were prevailing in the northern India in general and western parts such as Punjab and the hill states in particular. Again it was during Mal Dev "rule that Timur invaded all most all the hill states located in the Siwalik hills." After storming Meeruth and Haridwar in January 1399 he entered the Siwalik defeating, slaughtering and plundering on all sides between the Satluj and the Beas he had severe conflicts in the outer valleys with the forces of Raja of Nagarkot (Kangra). Between January 24 and February 23.

When he reached the neighbourhood of Jammu he had fought twenty battles and gained as many victories and conquered several forts which Timur numbers at eight." Timur attacked Jammu, looted, burnt and destroyed many villages, and took Raja Mal Dev as prisoner. And as it was a common feature with all Muslim invaders of the time either to con-

vert the conquered ruler to the Islamic fold or exterminate him. Raja Mal Dev chose the first alternative and embraced Islam. As a result of it his kingdom was restored. However, Charak (S.S.Charak) believes after that Timur left India Mal Dev deserted Islam and returned to the Hindu fold.

HAMIR DEV

After the death of Mal Dev who was considered to be a brave warrior his son Hamir Dev succeeded the gaddi of Jammu Raj. Hamir Dev's period was marked by many events. He was an intelligent Raja who could see the direction in which the political wind of the time blew. He formed a confederacy with Syed rulers of Delhi, Sultan Mubarak Shah against Khokhars who were at that time gaining power in the north-west, particularly in the Kashmir and Chibhal. With his clever and intelligent moves, Hamir Dev increased his influence in Kashmir Darbar as well as he befriended himself with the Delhi Burbar. The khokhars who became very powerful and after crossing Bias and Sutluj defeated the Syed Chiefs and plundered the entire area from Ludhiana to Rupar on the Sutlej and tried to capture Sirhind but were failed because of the challenge posed by Syed Sultan Mubarak Shah. The Khokhar fled towards the hills and were followed and pursued by Sultan Jasrath. Khokhar crossed Ravi near Kathua and proceeded to Takhar in the hills of Chibhal. It is here that the Hamir Dev helped the Sultan against Khokhars

and guided him to reach Tekhar, the native place of Khokhar. Sultan destroyed the place and only then the Royal army moved towards Lahore. But the Jasrath Khokhar did not leave his efforts to regain the supermacy over the region. He frequently engaged the royal forces and the forces of Hamir Dev. Once the royal forces and forces of Hamir Dev engaged the forces of Jasrath Khokhar near Chenab and conclusively defeated the Khokhar and plundered their entire area but Jasrath Khokhar managed to skip towards the hills and escaped. But his escape was only to gain time and consolidate his power. After achieving his this end he came out of the hills to settle his accounts with Raja Hamir Dev. This happened in April, 1423. This a very crucial battle for Jasrath Khokhar. He fight the forces of Raja Hamir Dev. Raja Hamir Dev was killed and his forces defeated in this battle, when Hamir Dev was killed his only son Ajeo Dev was minor. However, under the anarchic conditions the two maternal uncles of Ajeo Dev-Mardana and Jaipal in consultation with other Jamwal courtiers, managed to instal him on the gaddi and the maternal uncles became the 'Rakhwal' (protectors) Unfortunately the protectors could not follow the right policies and were, therefore, ousted and killed by the collective forces of Jamwals and Charaks. Ajeo Dev ruled for nearly 31 years and during his this period he made his kingdom safe berinding with the ruler of Kashmir Zaimul Abidin. He died

in 1454.

Ajeo Dev had three sons, Biram Dev, Hasal Dev and Chaman Dev. Biram Dev bring eldest succeeded Ajeo Dev on gadi and ruled up to 1495. During this period he fought many battles with Khokhars. Biram Dev was very liberal Raja in whose reign both Hindus and Muslims were given equal opportunities in all spheres of life. He consolidated his hold over the entire territory lying between Ravi and Jhellum. In recognition of his abilities curb the rebelian of Ghikar Khokhar, Behlol Lodi, the ruler of Delhi conquered on him the Parganas of Sialkot, Manawar and Mangla. He, however, died in a uncertain circumstances and there are different versions about his death. According to one version he was called to Delhi court where he was asked to accept Islam for the daughter of Delhi Sultan wants to marry him. He never wanted it. So managed to escape with the help of his wazir but was followed by imperial army and was killed near Delhi itself.

Biram Dev was succeeded by his son Ghoghar Dev who proved himself to be able and foresighted rulers. This was the time of early sixteenth century and Mughals had started invasion over the territories of Punjab. The ruler of Jammu, Ghoghar Dev remained aloof and manage to please the powerful invader by sending gifts and thus established allegiance. He was also successful in protecting the

Caravans of fruits and other things from Kashmir from the migratory tribes of Jallas, Chibs of Rajouri and Bhimber.

Ghoghar Dev ruled for about 29 years and had three sons Kapur Dev, Alam Dev and Charan Dev.

Ghoghar Dev was followed by his eldest son Kapur Dev on the gaddi in 1530 A.D. Two different queens of Kapur Dev gave birth to two sons on the same day. This promoted Raja Daput Dev to divide his kingdom so that there may not be any tussle for power after his death. He installed Samahal Dev as ruler of Jammu and Jag Dev the ruler of Bahu--the two divisions of his kingdom in 1570 A.D. Kapur Dev died in the year 1571 survived by his twenty-two son including Jag Dev and Samahal Dev.

Jagdev and Samahal were followed by Sangram Dev from 1594 to 1626, Hari Dev and Gaje Singh and Dhruv Dev. All these rulers of Jammu had, in one or the other way, submitted before the powerful Mughal ruler of Delhi interrupted by many intervening period of independent rule and battles for independent status. The successive Rajas remained almost in good books of the Mughal rulers. But these Jammu ruler never accepted the direct Mughal rule over their territories. Thus Jammu Raj remained a political entity.

Ranjeet Dev, Ghansar Dev, Surat Singh and Balwant Singh were the

four sons of Raja Dhruv Dev. Ranjeet Dev being the eldest son of Dhruv Dev obviously had to succeed him. But the date of his succession has been described differently by various historians and historical accounts. For instance Shahamat Ali opnes that he (Ranjeet Dev) succeeded in 1730 and ruled for fifty four years. Dewan Kirpa Ram on the other hand gives no date at all. Similarly dates given in Rajdarshani in Bikrami and Hijri Samwats show variations. However, Charak quoting the date of a 'patta' received by Dhruv Dev from Muhammed Shah Emperor of Delhi in his favour and also in favour of his two sons Raja Ranjeet Dev and Ghansar Dev, concludes that Ranjeet Dev must have acceded to the the 'gaddi' in about 1732 or 1733.

Ranjeet Dev being an able administrator gave a stable government to his people particularly at a time when Sikhs in Punjab were trying to hold as much portion as they could, the Emperor of Delhi on the other hand was trying to hold on not only the areas of Punjab but also the areas of Siwalik hills through the governors. And Afgans on the third front were tring at their own level. Ranjeet Dev under such condition's could manage to keep hold on his territories despite being imprisoned perhaps twice by Lahore Darbar. He defeated his rivals in the hills region and placed himself at a position where he could equate himself with the rulers of the plain regions.

But the eldest son of Raja Ranjeet Dev, Brijraj Dev, happened to be desultory in character and, therefore, Ranjeet Dev wanted to deprive him of the right of being his heir. His choice was his younger son Mian Dalal Dev. In the opinion of Ranjeet Dev his kingdom would remain safe in the hands of Dalal Dev. Brijraj Dev being the eldest son and with a record of being a commander of his father's forces, enjoyed certain degree of influences among them. Besides, he obtained help from certain other quarters who wanted to fish in the troubled waters. Brijraj Dev, however, could not succeed in his these manoeuvres but ultimately got his brother murdered in 1782 the year in which his father died.

So Brijraj Dev succeeded his father on the Jammu gaddi in April 1782. But as mentioned he was a man of desolatory character he took certain wrong political decisions and indulged in activities which he could hardly afford in an political atmosphere where Sikhs had already started interfering in the affairs of Jammu Raj. Brijraj Dev could not keep his people happy and everybody right from his courtiers down to the general public were discontented. Meanwhile Sikhs particularly Hakikat Singh Kanhiya attacked Jammu on and defeated the Dogra forces and Brijraj Dev had to agree to pay an annual tribute of Rs. 30,000 to Hakikat Singh Kanhiya. But when this tribute of Rs. 30,000 per annum fell in arrears the Sikhs again attacked Jammu and plundered the en-

tire area. Mahan Singh looted the treasury and palaces. According to Bhai Gian Singh this attack of Sikhs made on 5th February 1787. Sikh remain in Jammu for quite some period before Mian Mota Singh, a faithful of Brijraj Dev, after realising that he or the Dogra forces were unable to dislodge the Sikhs, agreed to pay tribute to Sardar Mahan Singh in lieu of their evacuation of Jammu territories. This was agreed to by the Sikhs and thus Brijraj Dev was again confirmed as the ruler of Jammu. Brijraj Dev subsequently died in a battlefield defending Ranjitgarh for leaving behind his only old son Sampuran Dev.

Sampuram Dev was appointed Raja of Jammu under the able protection of Main Mota who happened to be the son of Surat Singh, a brother of Raja Ranjeet Dev. But Sampuran Singh died at an early age of only eleven years in 1797 thereby cutting the line of Brijraj Dev. Thereafter Jit Singh another grand son of Ranjeet Dev was made the Raja of Jammu by the courtiers.

It was during Jit Singh reign that Shah Zaman of Afghanistan attacked Punjab and captured Lahore. But latter withdrew because of a domestic problems. But "In 1800 A.D. Maharaja Ranjeet Singh had taken the possession of Lahore, the same year, he advance on Jammu, but retired on Raja's tendering his submission and presenting the customary tribute. From this time he became entirely subject to Lahore." But it was only in 1816

that the Jammu state was annexed by Maharaja Ranjeet Singh and Jammu was made a district which was kept under the control of Prince Kharak Singh. Raja Jit Singh, however, lived up to 1822. It was in this year i.e. 1822 that Raja Jit Singh "signed a declaration renouncing all his rights and those of his succession to his ancestral State of Jammu in favour of Raja Gulab Singh Dhiyan Singh and Suchet Singh."

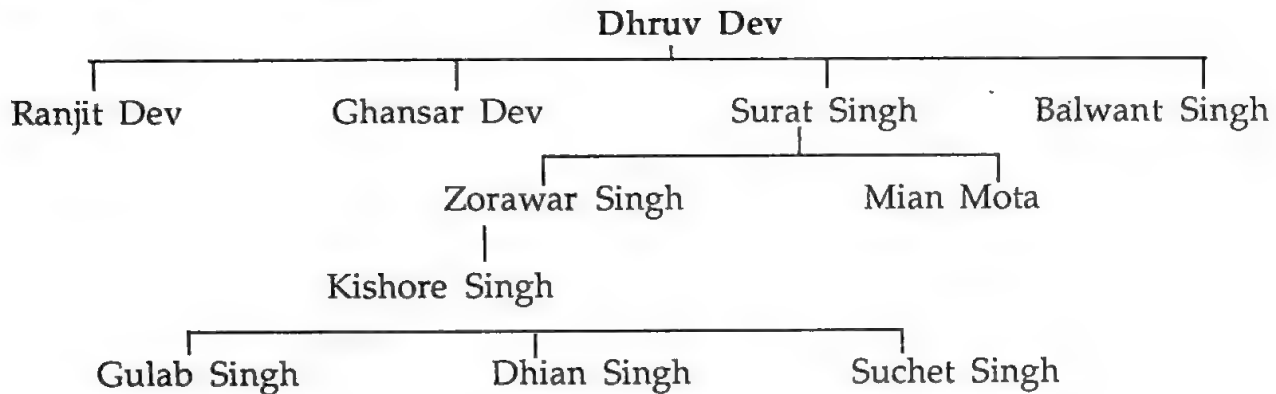
Thus the Jammu State was completely annexed but the local population in general and Jamwal Rajput in particular were not satisfied with the Sikh Raj. So they continued to show their resentment by rising in revolt against Sikhs as early as 1810. Mian Dido was their leader. This burly Rajput never accepted Sikhs as his rulers. He was defeated many times by different Sikh leaders but he would come out from his hide outs in the hill areas and challenge their rule. Even otherwise rising and resentment against Sikh rule became a common factor which spread far and wide in plains and hills alike people of Deva-Batala, Chibs and Bhau Rajputs also revolted. Desa Singh Majithia and Amar Singh were asked by Maharaja Ranjeet Singh to look after these insurrectors which they did. Mian Dido was also captured but being clever, intellegent and dare-devil he made his escape good. But the armies of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh moved for their crossed Chenab and punished the Chibs and Bhan and burn Deva-Bat-

ala, their city.

But the rebel Dido became more powerful enemy of Sikh rule in Jammu. He in fact became a hero of many Rajputs particularly those who wanted freedom from an alien ruler. Mian Dido by his gorella war tactics harassed particularly the Sikh population of region. It is in this background, perhaps, that Maharaja Ranjeet Singh was advised by his well wishes to hand over the reign to some local Rajput so that the resentment is eliminated and in doing so the offender Mian and Dido will also be punished. The advisers even named Gulab Singh and his brothers for the purpose. In such circumstances "It was not difficult for as G.C. Smyth write," the wily brothers -----persuading the too partial Maharaja that in their hand only could the government of their native district be satisfactorily carried on and Mian Kishore Singh the father of the family was raised by the Sikh Chief to the Raj of Jammu. Thus the Dogras were rewarded for their boldness loyalty and also for their military skill and diplomacy.

Raja Kishore Singh, the father of Gulab Singh Dogra were the direct descendants of Raja Ranjeet Dev who as we have seen died in 1782. The family tree of after Raja Dhruv Dev is as under:

So the Dogras were rewarded with Jammu Raj but certain conditions were attached to it which charak quoting



Gulabnama mentions as under:—
Rules

"To keep in readiness for imperial service, as per high orders 400 horsemen as described to engage in service as per rule, in cooperation with the exalted sardars – To make no deficiency in rendering goodwill, loyalty and sacrifices.... and to carry out readily royal commands whatever. To guard the Kashmir roads for the kafilas of Pashmina merchants.... and to make good any loss sustained by them on this account. To imprison and carry to presence, the rebellious and wicked Dido or to kill him, or derive him across the river Sutluj."

Further it was agreed to install imperial thanas at different starategy forts and places. Besides, another clause was added a few days latter which said, "Whenever, there is any increase in territory through the grace of Satguruji it will be reported to His Highness" It was due to this additional condition in the agreement that territories. In fact Maharaja Ranjeet Singh was annoyed with the Raja of Kishtawar for providing shelter to Shah Shuja-ul Mulk, the refugee King

of Kabul who made his escape good from the Lahore in April 1914. Even after receiving a message from Maharaja Ranjeet Singh to hand Shah Shuja over to the Lahore Durbar, ruler of Kishtawar refused to oblige the Lahore. Only the after enacting the another new clause to the agreements Dogras were allowed to conquer Kishtawar and annex it which they did in 1821. Five or six year before that, Dogras were able to persuade the Maharaja to give them the Jagir of Reasi as well. So in this way the father Kishore Singh with his able sons was able to expand not only territories of his Raj but also their influence, confidence and loyalty to the imperial power of Lahore.

One of the important task of the Dogras under the conditions of the agreement was to "imprison and carry to presence, the rebillious and wicked Dido or to kill him or drive him across the river Suttlej". Gulab Singh being an able administrator, brave soldier and above all men of the masses no doubt agreed with the basic principle for which Mian Dido was fighting and yet his foresight told him that it is not possible under the present circum-

stances. He first tried to persuade Dido to bring him round his point of view but when failed he tried to diplomatic skills to isolate him from his own supporters. Gulab Singh was successful in achieving this objective. Mian Dido lost the support of well wishers. People who used to fight with him now even stopped to give him even shelter. Gulab Singh ultimately surrounded him on the Trikuta Hills and was killed while fighting. Not only this Gulab Singh was able to stamp out sedition in Rajouri, Bhimber Reasi, Akhnoor and some other areas of Jammu region.

After the death of Mian Kishore Singh in 1922, Maharaja Ranjeet Singh recognising the services rendered by Gulab Singh to Sikh Raj, conferred sovereignty of Jammu and made Gulab Singh the Raja of Jammu, thereby recognising his hereditary, sight to it. Similarly, Suchet Singh was made Raja of Bhadarwal and Chibhal area and Poonch was given to Dhan Singh along with the title of Raja. "Out of rare kindness the Raj Tilak of Jammu has been bestowed on these slaves." All this happened on 17th June 1822. Thus the "three Dogra brothers were made vassals of the Kingdom of Lahore on stipulation contained categorically in the Qabuliet 'agreement' which included rendering obedience, good will and loyal service generation after generations; keeping ready for imperial service and mobilisation levies of horsemen of Kishtawar and Bandralts in lieu of territories of Jammu to any

place required rendering services far and wide like Kashmir and cooperating in every respect with, whatever, Rajas and Hindu and Muslim Sardars and emperor orders, considering "life property and territories a gift of his Highness and residing of the family members of Mian Dhian Singh with his son Hira Singh at Lahore always".

After achieving more than what could have been achieved in the existing circumstances, Raja Gulab Singh, it appears, might have thought of or as least dreamt of establishing a Dogra Raj independent of Lahore Durbar on the entire territorial jurisdiction of his great grand father Raja Dhruv Dev to begin with he derived satisfaction by consolidating his power and participating in the military operation conducted by Sikh army. His expansionist desire resulted in the next ten or fifteen years all the outer hill region and considerably portion of middle mountains became with the exception of Rajouri, completely subject to either Gulab Singh or his brothers, and the interest of these three war at that time one".

Raja Gulab Singh now wanted to annex Ladakh but it was not possible for him to remain away from Jammu for long for he had to present himself at Lahore Durbar, whenever, required. He, therefore, selected a Kanauria Rajput, Zorawar Singh for this arduous task. Zorawar Singh was a man of great military skill and determination which made him a proper per-

son in the eyes of Gulab Singh to achieve his desire to bring Ladakh under his rule. Although Zorawar Singh possessed all the qualities for being an able general yet the terrain, climate and above all high altitude making the atmosphere layer quite thin with limited amount of oxygen content in it, made it a very difficult for the forces of Zorawar Singh to accomplish the task easily. Situation became more difficult for the soldiers mostly coming from tropical to sub-tropical types of climate to moreover and fight in the areas enjoying alpine type of climates or even more severe sub-zero temperatures with limited availability of oxygen. Nevertheless, the brave soldiers in two compains made whole of Ladakh subject to Gulab Singh. Sakardu was annexed next and the ruler of Sakanardu Ahmad Shah was taken prison in 1840.

Raja Suchet Singh died in 1843 without any issue. As a result of it the principality of Suchet Singh-Ramnagar also came under the direct control of Raja Gulab Singh. "So by this time that fortunate ruler had acquired all the territories included in the present boundary, with the exception of Kashmir, Gilgit, Rajouri and Punch, this last being occupied by Raja Jawahir Singh, the son of Raja Dhian Singh who like Suchet Singh had lately been killed near Lahore". Thus all the territories automatically with the grace of nature fell in the hand of Raja Gulab Singh one by one although through different means.

SIKH WARS

As stated earlier Raja Gulab Singh was an able general, fine soldier and administrator of high order. But his ability to see through time, the coming events was still more marvellous. He kept himself aloof from the happening in the Lahore Durbar. "The Kingdom of Lahore, after the death of Ranjeet Singh on 27th 1939, was in a state of utter confusion. Mutual friendship and trust between the Sikhs and the British were subjected to reverse test". It was a time when Gulab Singh could have given a wise council to Sikhs. "Gulab Singh had for some time kept aloof from Lahore politics and was not involved in court intrigues that led to the movement of the Sikh troops against British territory; neither did he hurry down with his troops to help Sikhs as he would have done in the time of his old master Ranjeet Singh. He kept away until the decisive battle of Sabraon was fought, at which the victory declared for the British. Then he appeared almost as mediator between the two contending power, for after the various revolutions and massacres that had lately occurred at Lahore, and the late defeats of Sikh army, there seemed to be none but Gulab Singh who could shape events, who could guide the Sikh nation to any sensible course". Thus had Raja Gulab not been too serious to establish a Dogra Raj independent of Lahore Durbar and had been able to provide his able guidance to the powerful but leader less Sikh army of Lahore and had he been able to

provide military help as well, the history of India would have been quite different. Thus "out of the dismemberment of the kingdom of Lahore, the modern State of Jammu and Kashmir emerged, In pursuance of the article four and twelve of the treaty of Lahore. A week later treaty of Amritsar between Gulab Singh and the British government was signed. Gulab Singh and the heirs were granted "all the hilly or mountainous country with its dependencies situated to the eastward of the Fiver Indus and the westward of River Ravi including Chamba and excluding Lahore," on the payment of rupees one crore, the part of war indemnity imposed upon Lahore Durbar" with the conclusion of this treaty "Gulab Singh earstwhile Raja of Jammu. From 1820, became the Maharaja of Kashmir in 1846. Through he was recognised as an independent ruler, there was an article in the treaty of Amritsar according to which he was a vassal of the British and had to pay an annual tribute in acknowledgement of their supremacy" According to Panikar Gulab Singh's diplomacy of remaining neutral in to the conflict between British and Sikhs paid him quite substantially. "The cession of Kashmir was the price paid for Gulab Singh's efforts to bring about a speedy peaces which, if he had thrown his weight with Lahore Durbar, would not have been an easy matter to achieve. The ease matter to achieve. The ease with which the peace was concluded was due to the agreement reached with Gulab Singh by which Kashmir had

already been promised to him".

But Maharaja Gulab Singh was not allowed by the British to function alone and carry out the enlightened reform programmes. In fact the British regretted the Amritsar treaty and soon started pressuring Gulab Singh to accept a British resident of his court in order to have a say particularly in the frontier affairs of the Maharaja. Maharaja Gulab Singh initially resisted the more than once but ultimately a for British officer was posted at Srinagar.

Since Gulab Singh wanted to live a secluded life so his son Ranbir Singh was installed as ruler of Jammu and Kashmir in February 1856. And Maharaja Gulab Singh who was a capable brive and dauntless soldier having immense desire to give justice to his subjects, a prompt administrator and a fine horse rider died of dropsy in 1857 A.D. And with him an era of glorious achievements also win ended.

Although Maharaja Ranbir Singh who was installed as ruler of the state before the death of his father in 1856, was a man of art and letters and had interest in learning yet he, while discharging the duties of a Maharaja, ordered his forces to move under the able general Dev Singh accross the river Indus to reoccupy the Gilgit in 1860. It was most important task for the Maharaja to deal firmly with the rebels in the frontier areas. His forces were able to captured and subdue the Yasin and by the year 1865 the Darel

valley was also brought under control.

On the other hand the Britishers were important to have their say in the administration of state and were pressing the Maharaja to agree to their proposal of having an agent in Gilgit and to extend the stay of officer on special duty, in the Kashmir for the whole year in stead of only summer season agreed to by his father Maharaja Gulab Singh. "For the accomplishment of these objectives Lytton promised an aid of five thousand rifles and a suitable quantity of ammunition". Although the objective of appointing an agent in Gilgit was fulfilled yet it was not possible for the Britisher to appoint an agent in Kashmir. But the British agent appointed in Gilgit was resisted by the local population and this resistance persisted for years to come. After the conclusion of Anglo-Afghan War in September 1880, Gilgit lost its importance for the Britishers and so the agent was recalled in 1881. Maharaja Ranbir Singh was greatly relative by this act of the Britishers for the British agent in Gilgit was accepted by him with great reluctance.

Maharaja Ranbir Singh as stated earlier was a lover of art, literature and was devotedly attached to religion. It goes to his credit that he "collected a good library of Sanskrit and Persian manufacture. An era of modernism in education was ushered in through opening of schools. The Ra-

gunath Temple--the complex at Jammu is a landmark--and other temples bear testimony to his zeal for Hindu religion." A devote Hindu but Maharaja was a time secular in his outlook. He was considerate enough to give to Shia Muslims who were the victim of the barbarism of their co-religionists--the Sunnis. Thus he saw no difference in his subjects on the basis of religion. Maharaja was loved one by his people. Maharaja Ranbir Singh's reign saw severe famine in which large number of people died of starvation. Both rural and urban population was affected by it. Under such circumstances the only alternative left with Maharaja was to spend".... huge amounts on new staples, sericulture, hops vince....". Among other developmental activities, he constructed a cart road so as to facilitate the movement of grains in the wake of any subsequent shortage of foodgrains. Maharaja Ranbir Singh wise enough to resist the moves of the Britishers to place a resident in the Jammu Durbar. It was, perhaps, due to intense pressure from the Britishers for this purpose that he developed tension and ultimately died on September the 12th 1885.

The Britishers were planning for long to appoint a Resident in Kashmir. They, the Britishers, had started their efforts in this direction right from 1848 but all these efforts were resisted by the successive rulers Maharaja Ranbir Singh too successfully resisted the moves for the appointment of a Resi-

dent but in his death the Britishers got an opportunity to appoint Sir Oliver St. John as the first resident who reached Jammu on 15th Sept. 1885 just three days after the death of Maharaja Ranbir Singh, Maharaja Pratap Singh, the eldest son of Maharaja Ranbir Singh was still in moving for thirteen days, when sir, Oliver St. John met him in the evening of September the 15th to inform him that his succession was recognised by the Viceroy "and that he would have to introduce reforms in the administration of the state with the assistance of a British Resident." Thus with this the direct interference into a sovereign State by the Britishers began despite the protest by Maharaja Partap Singh and the sovereignty granted by Britishers themselves. The grab of effecting reforms in the administration under which the political resident was appointed could very well be taken care of by the Maharaja himself without the interference from any other agency, the political resident in this case. But the plans of Britisher in this case were plain and clear. They wanted to curtail the powers of Maharaja. The weak Maharaj represented his case for getting a reasonable time for effecting the desired and necessary reform but without any positive gains, Maharaja Pratap Singh paid a personal visit to Calcutta in 1885-86, during the winters but failed to get his point of view through. Meanwhile in the early months of 1886 the resident Sir Oliver St. John was replaced by another more offensive rather cun-

ning and hostile resident T. Chichela Plowden.

Plowden obstructed every thing that Maharaja wanted to give to effect to. For instance Maharaja wanted to extend educational facilities to his subjects by opening new Schools but Plowden came in His way. Similarly Maharaja wanted an equitable land settlement in Kashmir by appointing a Muhammedan settlement Officer taking into consideration the concentration of Muhammedans in the Kashmir Valley but Plowden got an Englishman appointed as a settlement Officer. Plowden also was successful in replacing the existing high officials of Durbar by inefficient and incompetent ones such as Devan Gobind Sahai was replaced by Lachaman Dass as Prime Minister. In nut shell Plowden did every thing that could help Britishers to remove the Maharaja. Plowden continued to take all measures necessary for the removal of the Maharaja till he was replaced by another resident-Colonel R.Pany Nisbet towards the end of 1888. Colonel Nisbet in collaboration with the younger brother of Maharaja Pratap Singh known by the name Amar Singh ultimately obtained the signature of Maharaja Pratap Singh on already prepared draft of resignation on 8th March 1889. And in the meantime from the time of his joining as resident a year ago, in March 1888, he continued to conspire against the Maharaja and was ultimately successful in achieving his air. He obtained the

signature of Maharaja on the latter resignation under great and many sided pressures. But the fundamental fact remains that he removed the Maharaja from the reign of power.

But "the echo of the criminal deposition of Pratap Singh was loud, and was heard everywhere. In Jammu the Dogra residents submitted a petition to C. Bradlaugh, MP who in India was considered as a friend for help and protection. Webster a conservative member of the house of commons, asked a question on 14th March 1889 which was disposed of quickly by Sir John Gorst Chatham". But all such measures failed. Nevertheless, the opposition of the people, to deposition of Maharaja continued with more vigour and consistancy which ultimately brought fruit. But not earlier than 1905 when Maharaja Pratap Singh was again given the powers of Maharaja. But the resident continued to control the administration. Maharaja, in consultation of this resident brought certain progressive reforms. It was in 1924 that Maharaja under his chairmanship formed an Executive council. He effected reforms in judiciary and the revenue systems. Among the achievements of Maharaja one can easily mention the establishment of colleges and hospitals both at Jammu and Srinagar, the winter and the summer capitals of the State respectively. He was able to link Srinagar with both Jammu and Rawalpindi which was a most important contribution in the field of road communication. He also

was responsible for connecting Jammu and Srinagar by telephones. He took measures to attract tourist to the State. It was during the reign of Maharaja Pratap Singh that Jammu was linked with Sialkot with railway line. Thus we see that despite being out of power for quite a long period of time the achievement of Maharaja Partap Singh in the field of education, communication and administration are no less significant.

Maharaja Partap Singh died in 1925 and was followed by Maharaja Hari Singh was his nephew and son of his younger brother-Amar Singh since Maharaja Pratap Singh had no son of his own. Maharaja Hari Singh had a natural ability of considerable extent for administration as he had already worked as a senior member of State council during the reign of Maharaja Pratap Singh. He had already been the Commander-in-Chief of the State forces since 1915. Thus he became the ruler with a considerable experience to govern the state with ability and confidence, it is, perhaps, due to these qualities developed in the initial stages of his career that he could face the most testing situation in the latter period of his life with confidence prudence and foresight. He believed in justice and was secular in out look. He never hesitated in attending the Ed prayers with Muslims in the beginning. He paid heed towards the rural population and tried uplift them. He wanted his subjects to be educated and so started many new Schools and

dispensaries, for providing medical facilities to the people, were also establish. But all this proved of little consequence in the face of political development taking place and shaping the destiny of the Indian nation.

Since the State was dominated by Muslim population, therefore, the Muslim press launched an offensive against the Maharaja blaming him of keeping the Muslim majority almost in serfdom. The English Press also instigated the feeling of the Muslims thereby serving the cause of divide and rule policy the Britishers" on 13 July 1931, the Muslim population of Srinagar rose as one man in a mammoth demonstration against the excess of the State forces. Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, who had resigned his job in protest, led the movement for the right of democratic self rule." The rulers little realised that a movement for freedom from an autocratic rule had already been launched and that the Britishers who overtly or covertly had already managed to established their administration in Gilgit also secured a lease of it for sixty years on 29th March 1935, and were no more interested with internal affairs of the State. This left Maharaja Hari Singh to deal with his political opponents with absolute freedom.

On the other hand people of the state in general and Muslim population in particular, as mentioned earlier, were agitating against the autocratic rule and were asking for a responsible Government. All this move-

ment was started by the Muslims under the leadership of Sheikh Muhammed Abdullah who was leading political party of Muslims called Muslim conference. But Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah soon realised that in a multi-religious society that enjoys a complete mutual understanding and harmonious relations a communal political party like Muslim conference had little scope for success. Beside, Sheikh himself was not a communally oriented leader. He, therefore, on 8th May 1936 earnestly called upon all Hindus and Sikhs to join him in the struggle for demanding a Responsible Government and the word 'Muslim' from his 'Muslim Conference' was replaced by the word 'National' to accommodate all sections of the state's population in June 1938. With the support of all sections of population, it now became easy for National Conference to demand a Government elected by the adult franchise. Although Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah was pursuing a truly secular line of action yet it was not liked by Muslim League leader Mohammed Ali Jinnah. Sheikh, however was able not to resist Jinnah for communalising the state politics but was also able to carry the entire population with him irrespective of caste or religion. Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah was able to absorb the opposition by one Ghulam Abbas who broke away from the National Conference and had revived the Muslim Conference with almost similar manifesto to that of Muslim Conference of Mohammed Ali Jinnah. National conference's only aim was

to secure for the people the right of electing their own Government and thus National Conference contested the very validity of Amritsar Treaty and called upon the Maharaja Hari Singh to quit Kashmir. Sheikh Abdullah was, however, arrested and jailed on May 20, 1946 for launching a Quit Kashmir Movement. The Indian National Congress reacted immediately and sharply against the arrest of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah. Sheikh Abdullah was tried and sent to jail for three years by the court. National Conference was banned by the Maharaja's administration. All this, therefore, shows that "the Maharaja had been challenged by the dynamic secular and progressive movement initiated by Sheikh Abdullah and that Sheikh Abdullah's movement had received unqualified support from Congress. On the other hand Maharaja appeared to have received an assurance from the Muslim Conference, and the League, that they were opposed to the ideology of Sheikh Abdullah and would be content to continue the 'Status Quo' without a substantial change. It is in the light of this background that the subsequent events in Kashmir must be considered". Thus we see that the 'Quit Kashmir' struggle launched in 1946 by National Conference was similar in nature to "Quit India" agitation launched by Indian National Congress in 1942. The former was against the Dogra hegemony while the latter against a colonial power. The struggle launched by National Conference was suppressed with force and as said earlier Sheikh

Abdullah was convicted and sent to jail for three years. The then Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, R.C. Kak was responsible for suppressing the movement. The arrest of Sheikh Abdullah was not liked by Indian National Congress and, therefore, Jawaharlal Nehru, the then President of Congress rushed to the state where he was arrested for a day and was sent back. On the other hand Mohammed Ali Jinnah was not in agreement to the policies adopted by Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah and, therefore, he described the 'Quit Kashmir' movement as a movement carried out by "few malcontents". Meanwhile, Mahatma Gandhi visited Kashmir in July 1947, Mahatma Gandhi was greatly impressed by the communal harmony prevailing particularly in the state in general and Kashmir Valley in particular. This was a time when Britishers had already decided to leave India and as a result of it, the people of the state were looking forward to rulers of the state as well as to the leadership of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah to make efforts culminating into the accession of Jammu and Kashmir State to India. But Maharaja Hari Singh was not very keen on to do so.

And it was on August 15, 1947 that India got independence, but with a difference, as two independent and sovereign states of 'Secular India' and 'Islamic State of Pakistan' were carved out of it. The division of the country could not be stopped. The reasons seem out of the scope of this work but the division had a profound ef-

fect on the polity of strategically located state of Jammu and Kashmir. The Indian Independence Act provided the rulers of different but small independent states, the right of remaining independent or joining any one of the dominions at their will. Although the population of the state was predominately Muslim yet secular in their outlook due mainly to the leadership of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah coupled with age old ties so well knitted between different sections of society. But Mohammed Ali Jinnah who believed in the two nation theory based on only religion wanted Jammu and Kashmir and through its lot with Pakistan. As a result of it Pakistan started manipulating the communal feelings of the majority Muslim population to achieve its end. But finding their inability to rouse the communal feelings in the state through their mass media the Pakistan started to follow insidious means to achieve the desired end. Consequently on October 22, 1947 a tribal invasion over Kashmir was managed by Pakistan by aiding the tribals coming from distant areas of North-West Frontier Province with all materials necessary for launching a military offence. Maharaja Hari Singh in his letter to Lord Mountbatten requesting the accession of the state to India writes thus, "Afridis, soldiers in Plain clothes and desperadoes with modern weapons have been allowed to infiltrate into the state, at first in the Poonch area, then from Sialkot and finally in a mass in the

area adjoining Hazara district on the Ramkot side. The result have been that the limited number of troops at the disposal of the state had to be dispersed and thus had to face enemy at several point simultaneously, so that it has become difficult to stop the wanton distruction of life and property and looting of Mahura Power House, which supplies electric current to whole of Srinagar and which has been burnt. The number of women who have been kidnapped and raped makes my heart bleed. The wild forces thus let loose on state are marching on with the aim of capturing Srinagar, the summer capital of my Government as a first step to over running the whole state the mass infiltration of tribes man coming regularly in motor trucks, using the Mansehra-Mizaffarabad road and fully armed with up-to-date weapons, cannot possibly be done without the knowledge of the Provincial Government of North-West Frontier Province and the Government of Pakistan." Thus Pakistan let loose a reign of terror in Kashmir which prompted Maharaja Hari Singh to request the Indian Government through his letter dated October the 26th, 1947 a portion of which is quoted earlier. In reply to this letter Lord Mountbatten then wrote to Maharaja Hari Singh on 27th October 1947 which is reproduced as under:

My dear Maharaja Sahib,

Your Highness's letter dated 26 Oc-

tober 1947 has been delivered to me Mr. V.P.Menon. In the circumstances mentioned by your Highness, my Government have decided to accept the accession of Kashmir to the dominion of India. In consistence with their policy that in the case of any state where the issue of accession has been the subject to dispute, the question of accession should be decided in accordance with the wishes of the people of the State, it is my Government's wish that, as soon as law and order have been restored in Kashmir and its soil cleared of the invader, the question of State's accession should be settled by a reference to the people.

Meanwhile, in response to your Highness's appeal for military aid action has been taken today to send troops of the Indian Army to Kashmir, to help your own forces to defend your territory and to protect the lives, property and honour of your people. My Government and I note with satisfaction that your Highness has decided to invite Shiekh Abdullah to form an interim Government to work with your Prime Minister''.

Thus after the accession of the state to the dominion of India was accepted, the troops of Indian Army landed at the Srinagar airport under heavy odds. This first batch of Indian army belonging to Ist Sikh Regiment under the command of Lt. Col. D.R.Rai landed at Srinagar aerodrom and with this batch of Sikh troops Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah who had also gone to Delhi for requesting Indian Gov-

ernment to accept the document of accession. Meanwhile Maharaja Hari Singh appointed Sheikh Abdullah as head of Emergency Administration on 30th Oct. 1947. The first batch of Indian troops needed more help both in men and material and therefore, Brig. L.P. Sen arrived in Srinagar as Commander 161 Inf. Brigade. On November 2nd 1947 Jinnah's personal Secretary K.H.Khurshid was arrested in Srinagar with some important Document. General Kulwant Singh took over as GOC of Union and State Forces. Under the able leadership of General Kulwant Singh, Indian troops inflicted heavy casualties on the invader army. November 7 and 8 saw big offensive of the Indian army resulting in the liberation of Baramulla which brought eye witness accounts of rape and arson by the raiders into light. It was by 14th Nov. 1947 that the raiders were pushed back beyond Uri, thereby relieving the Kashmir valley from the barbarous brutes for good. Similarly, the Indian forces under the able leadership of Brig. Pritam Singh pushed back the attack of the invaders in the Poonch sectors. Brig. Pritam Singh was able to save Poonch and was responsible for evacuating thousands of people coming from Bagh, Plandri, Rawalakot etc. who had reached Poonch leaving everything behind. Similarly, the intruders were offered resistance by Chib Rajputs in Deva-vatala tract but in the absence of any weapons worth the name could not resist for long the intruders who were supplied most up-to-date weapons. Be it Deva-vatala or

bag or Uri sectors the brave people of the state irrespective of caste or religion gave a toughest fight to the intruders as they were pushed to well and had no alternative but to kill or get killed. Under such circumstances, the Indian troops help and involvement, had to be successful.

On the political front, Maharaja Hari Singh through a proclamation appointed Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah as his Prime Minister on 5th March 1948. But before that India had already moved to the United Nations. This decision of approaching the United Nations was taken by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. Pt. Nehru a great statesman, and philosopher the world has ever produced, was a kind hearted person who had already received many severe shocks in the form of untold miseries caused to millions of the people of Indian sub-continent, in the wake of portion of the country and the riots that followed it was not at all prepared to do settle any issue with the use of force. This attitude of the Prime Minister led him to approach the united nations, despite some opposition from within, for the impartial decision of the Kashmir dispute. But the attitude of Pakistan can be ganged from the fact that on Jan. 12, 1948, barely twelve days after India approached the world body, Sardar Ibrahim disclosed in Karachi that 99000 people are being trained to liberate "liberate" Kashmir. It was on 17th Jan 1948, that security council passed a resolution asking India and

Pakistan not aggravate the situation and on 20th Jan. the same year a 3-member commission was appointed by the security council to investigate the facts and exercise mediatory influence. On 5th Feb. 1948, while speaking in the security council Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah argued that it is the aggression by Pakistan that is the issue before this august world body and not the accession of the Jammu and Kashmir State to the dominion of India. While returning home disgusted Sheikh had to tell the news man at Bombay "no place of logic in U.N." on the military fronts the Indian troops were marching ahead unabated. On 23rd May 1948, Brig. Harbaksh Singh's troops entered Tithwal while on 24th May Air cdre Mehar Singh with general thimayya flies to leh to land at an aerodrom situated at an unparalleled Height in the world and it was by 1st July 1948 that Gurex was also liberated from the succession every front they operated and it was by 1st January 1948 that a ceasefire was agreed upon both by India and Pakistan and became effective from the midnight between Dec. 31, 1948 and Jan. 1, 1948.

It was from the suggestion of Sardar Patel that Maharaja Hari Singh and his Maharani Tara Devi absented from the State and Maharaja Hari Singh while at Delhi, signed a proclamation, making his son, Yuvraj Karan Singh, who recently returned from New York, as Regent. On January the 26th, 1950 when India became a republic and adopted the constitution, the Ar-

article 370 of the union constitution came into force giving Jammu and Kashmir a special status.

The State Government under the leadership of Sheikh Abdullah wanted to set up an assembly, the proclamation for which under the direction of Maharaja Hari Singh, was issued by Regent, Yuvraj Karan Singh on May 1st 1951. National Conference begged all the 75 seats of the assembly out of which 73 were uncontested while remaining two were contested and won by the National Conference.

However, from early 1952 Sheikh Md. Abdullah started developing a feeling of dissatisfaction against the Central Government which became an open fact on 10th April 1952 in a public meeting at Ranbir Singh Pura in Jammu district, subsequently, Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah while addressing a Martyr's day meeting at Srinagar, said that any interference in the affairs of the State by the Centre will be treated. All these utterances of the powerful leader of the State resulted in what is known as Delhi Agreement under which the then Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru announced special position for Jammu and Kashmir on 24th July 1952. Simultaneously, it was declared in the Parliament that the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the union of India is complete both "in law and in fact." This fact was acknowledged by Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah at a public meeting at Lal Chowk in Srinagar on 28th of July 1952. The 'Delhi Agreement' was sub-

sequently approved by the assembly on 19th August, 1952. In November 1952 assembly elected Yuvraj Karan Singh as *Sadar-i-Riyassat*, thereby bringing to an end the Dogra rule in the State and establishment of democratic system based on adult Franchise under the constitution drafted and approved by the Kashmir assembly. In the middle of 1953, there appeared a drift in the State cabinet. The Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah who while addressing a public meeting on 13th July 1953 said "it is not necessary that our State should become appendage of either India or Pakistan": was accused by majority of colleagues of having generated uncertainty, supreme and doubt in the mind of the people. The majority of the cabinet colleagues of the Prime Minister submitted a memorandum to him on 8th August 1952 thus "you will kindly recall that in the course of the meeting of the cabinet held on August 7th, 1953, and on many other occasions previously, we brought to your notice that certain pronounced tendencies indicating a very sharp divergence of opinion had become manifest in our approach to the broad policies which form the basis of the Government and the administration.....it has become increasingly clear that Mr. Beg and you in utter disregard of the opinion of your colleagues and without their consultations make public pronouncements which flout the principle of joint responsibility.....But we regret to observe that you have not only disregarded the wishes of your colleagues

in the cabinet but have acted in the right of freely expressing their opinions to the representatives of the people.....". The majority concluded the letter by saying, "It is, therefore, with great pain that we have to inform you of our conclusion that the Cabinet, constituted as it is at present and lacking as it does in the unity of purpose and action, has lost the confidence of the people in its ability to give them a clean, efficient and healthy administration. A copy of this letter was passed on to Sadar-i-Riyyasat. The Sadar-i-Riyasat in a meeting with Sheikh on August the 8th suggested a cabinet meeting to resolve the differences, Sheikh never did so and left for Gulmarag. Sadar-i-Riyasat on August the 8th suggested a cabinet meeting to resolve the differences, Sheikh never did so and left for Gulmarag. Sadar-i-Riyasat on August 8." I Karan Singh Sadar-i-Riyasat on August, functioning in the interests of the people of the State who have reposed the responsibility and authority of Headship of the State in me, do hereby dismiss Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah from the Prime Ministership of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and consequently the Council of Ministers headed by him is dissolved forthwith. On August 9, 1953 Sadar-i-Riyasat wrote another letter to Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad asking him for a meeting for taking decisions regarding the formation and composition of new cabinet. On 9th August itself Sheikh Abdullah was arrested at Gulmarg and Bakshi Gu-

lam Mohammad sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir State.

Thus we see that on August 9th 1953, rift surfaced in the cabinet of Sheikh, a letter by dissatisfied members of the cabinet was written to the Prime Minister with copy to Sadar-i-Riyasat who promptly acted and by the morning of 9th August the Prime Minister was not only dismissed but was arrested too, and new Prime Minister was also appointed by the Sadar-i-Riyasat.

However, Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad was soon a popular leader of the people. It was during Bakshi's rule that China launched an aggression without any reason or even the apprehension of it, Ladakh, therefore, became an active battlefield." The memories of a heroic resistance put up by our forced under the able stewardship of Late General Bikram Singh are still afresh. That great son of the Indian soil moved from Bunkar to Bunkar to replenish his fighting soldieres with munition, food and moral courage, unlike many commanders who simply sit at the rear headquarters and wait for the pouring in news. On this front the Chinese were literally made to chew the iron gram." After this war there was general criticism of the Government at the Centre. The then Prime Minister of India wanted a change in the political sphere. In order to help the Prime Minister his party colleague

Kamraj outlined a plan under which many public men offered to resign and work as social servants of the masses. Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad also resigned under Kamraj Plan to be followed by his cabinet colleague Shams-ud-Din who was sworn in as Prime Minister on 12th October, 1963 with Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq group staying away. On December, 1963 Prophet Mohammad's hair were stolen from Hazarat Bal Shrine which resulted in mass upsurge throughout the Valley similarly on January 2, 1964 an idol was stolen from a Jammu temple causing considerable concern to the people and Government. Shams-ud-Din was unable to tide over all such problems and was, therefore, replaced by Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq who was sworn in as Prime Minister on 29th February, 1964. Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq was a better leader than Shams-ud-Din in so far as the administration of the State is concerned. But he is also credited with many historic developments which are of vital national interest. It was during the regime of Ghulam Mohammed Sadiq that a new criminal procedure code was brought into force. Similarly it was on December 4, 1964 that Union Home Minister Girdhari Lal Nanda decides to apply Articles 356 and 357 of India Constitution to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Again it was during the regime of Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq that National Conference was converted into Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee and Syed Mir Qasim was made

its first President. Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah who released by Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq on April 8, 1964 launched a social boycott of congressmen in the Kashmir Valley. However, all these decisions taken during the Sadiq's regime brought the State more nearer to the union of India both constitutionally and psychologically.

But the intentions of Pakistan were far from friendly. Pakistan which only occasionally enjoyed democratic rule through, could not make economic progress and was left behind by India in this field. As a result of it the people of Pakistan in general and Pakistan occupied Kashmir in particular were not happy with the Government of the time. Thus it became necessary for the rulers of Pakistan to divert the attention of its population to anti-India propaganda. This objective was initially achieved through launching of anti-India programmes from Radio Pakistan but ultimately they started sneaking intruders into Indian territory with the purpose of creating law and order problems for the duly elected Government in this part of the State. These intruders were challenged by the Indian security personnel 5 to 10 kms from the cease fire line in Galuthi sector, 3 to 25 kms inside the Indian territory in the Poonch Sector. All these facts point to only one conclusion that Pakistan had decided to inflict a unwanted war in India. But on September 1, 1965 Pakistan finally launched a full attack on India and Pakistani troops crossed

Chamb border with as many as 9 Tanks. Similar attacks were made in Poonch, Jhamgar etc. India was left with no alternative but to cross the international border and fight the war on Pakistani soil. The Pakistani defence was wrecked in about two weeks time and a cease fire was brought into force on the midnight of September 23, 1965 followed by a piece agreement signed between India and Pakistan at Tashkent on 10th of January 1966. This agreement at Tashkent was signed by the Prime Minister of India Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri on behalf of India and President of Pakistan Late Mohammad Ayub Khan for Pakistani side. It was during the Chief Ministership of Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq that state constitution was amended on 30th March 1965 to resume Sadar-i-Riyasat as Governor and Prime Minister as Chief Minister thus narrowing the gap that existed between the total integration of the state with rest of the country. It was on 9th May, 1965 again that Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah was held at Palam Air Port while returning from a foreign trip only to be released on December the 8th, 1967, subsequently while addressing a press club of India on October 15, 1969 in New Delhi Sheikh Abdullah ruled out an independent Kashmir.

Meanwhile on Indo-Pak front many new developments were taking place. In the general elections held in Pakistan in the year 1970 left the ruling party without any base in the eastern wing of the country which now is an

independent country of Bangladesh. But the western Pakistan polity dominated by Punjabi Muslims and led by Z.A. Bhutto wanted to maintain its hegemony. Over the eastern wing of the Country by using the brute force. As a result of it Yahya Khan, then the President of Pakistan in full agreement with Zulfikar Ali Bhutto let loose a reign of terror resulting in mass murders of Bengali Muslim population and raping and murdering the Bengali women—the innocent and defenceless doves. When one is pushed to wall either by circumstance or by some brute force unable to see reasons and writing on the walls, then the only alternative left with the oppressed one is to defend him with all the mighty he has at his command. It so happened in the case of then East Pakistani Muslims. They organised a militia called Mukti Bahini and adopted the guerrilla warfare tactics to meet the challenge posed by well-trained and regular Pakistani Army. Meanwhile more than a million east Pakistan crossed the international border to take shelter in India. All these developments once again thrust a conflict on India by the ill conceived plan of Pakistani rulers. It was on 3rd December 1971 that Pakistani Army once again attacks India by striking the air fields in Srinagar and other towns. The brave Indian troops under the protective cover of Indian Air Force replied the attack in a befitting manner. A fierce battle was fought in the Chamb-Jourian sector to save the very important Jammu Poonch Link Road, on

4th December 1971, Indian forces had to be withdrawn due to very heavy pressure applied by the Pakistani Army. Pakistanis were able to cross the Munawar Tawi and started advancing towards Akhnoor. The capture of Akhnoor would have meant the death trap for all the forces fighting beyond Akhnoor. This is what in fact was the plan of Pakistani Army. But the able leadership of Lt. General Sartaj Singh was able not only to contain the Pakistani advancement but made them to retreat towards the western side of the Munawar Tawi. Nevertheless, the fierce fighting was witnessed between the Indian and the Pakistani armies of this from right from 3rd December to 9th when Pakistani attack was halted. It will not be out of place to mention here that the Pakistani attack was so severe and consistent, that the Indian Generals were forced to deploy the traditional warrior regiments to achieve the desired results for they were by then convinced that it is not an ordinary task to repulse the concerted Pakistani attack. On 9th December, 1971 Indian troops were able to repulse the concerted Pakistani attack. On 9th December, 1971 Indian troops were able to repulse the Pakistanis from their own territory in the Samba and Madhopur segment. In fact by this date the Indian forces, who were taken by a surprise on 3rd December, were able to consolidate their position and had started advancing in almost all the segments. As a result of it, it was not

only Samba-Madhopur segment where Indians advanced but they were able to advance in the Ladakh, Gulmarg and Uri sections as well. It was on 11th December, that Indian forces advanced in the Kargil, Lipa valley and the Poonch areas. By 14th of December when Z.A. Bhutto cabled Pakistani posts in Kargil area. Meanwhile it was on 7th December 1971, that United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution urging both India and Pakistan to ceasefire and withdrawal of troops. It was the day i.e. 7th December that the chicken's neck fell in the hands of Indian troops. Thus neither Bhutto's cables nor Yahya's concerted efforts could help Pakistani army to stand against the Indian Army which was much bigger in size and resources. It was on 16th December that nearly a lakh soldiers and officers of the Pakistani Army under the leadership of A.A.K. Niazi surrendered unconditionally before Lt. General Jageet Singh Arora, who now is the Akali Dal(L) member at 8 p.m. I.S.T. And on 22nd December Security Council adopted a resolution demanded a durable ceasefire and withdrawals of the troops of both India and Pakistan to their pre-war positions.

It was during the days when the Indo-Pak War was on its heights that the first Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq passed away at Chandigarh to 12th December 1971 after a prolonged ill-

ness. Gulam Mohammad Sadiq gave a dynamic leadership to the state from 29th February 1964 when he was sworn in as the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir to 12th of December 1971 when he passed away as the Chief Minister for Home affairs applied Articles 356 and 357 of the Indian Constitution to the State on 4th December 1964 well within one year of his taking over Prime Minister of the State. Again in the early 1965 Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq was able to get the constitution of the State amended to rename Sadar-i-Riyasat as Governor and Prime Minister as Chief Minister of the Jammu and Kashmir State on 30th March 1965. Some people view his these steps as anti-state acts but other fell then as in the best interest of the nation as a whole. The History is patiently watching and has yet to give its verdict on there and many more policy decision taken by Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq.

Gulam Mohammad Sadiq was followed by Mir Qasim. Mir Qasim a well meaning and a piece loving persons knew the pulse of the people. He was a staunch supporter of the idea of bringing Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah back to the states active politics. He played a key role in it. Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah on the other hand was not averse or disinclined to the idea which appears from many of his statements during this period. For instance while talking to the 'Times' London on 10th Feb. 1972 Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah declared that our quarrel with Government of

India is not about the accession of the state with India but on the quantum of the autonomy to the state. Thus he once again reiterated the accession of the state with Indian union as final. Sheikh's participation in the civic elections in the Kashmir Valley with Mir Waiz on 13th September 1972 showed his intention of leading his people. These civic elections which were held after a gap of 16 years were won by Sheikh. Mir Qasim's statement of 17th July 1973 that Sheikh is a leader of progressive thinking and is opposed to reactionary politics and Sheikhs telling Bhutto to keep his hands off the Kashmir on letter's calls for a Kashmir Band on 30th Nov. 1973 makes it amply clear that Sheikh had never entertained an idea of being closer to Pakistan. And finally a close associate of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah - Mubarak Shah was sworn in as a minister of cabinet rank of 12th December 1973. This historical development may be termed as putting the vehicle of politics in a reverse gear but alas; not with the sincerity it deserved. Once the process of reconciliation started Sheikh was not, as usual, found wanting in helping the Union Government to see reason in the Kashmir. For instance on 3rd April, 1974 while addressing the Plebiscite Front Workers Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah said that there seems a sympathetic change in Delhi's thinking about his view point in respect of the future of Jammu and Kashmir State. In response to it Sardar Sawaran Singh a Union Minister while talking to the news men at Srinagar on 10th June

1974 said, "There are some basic common approaches on which the constructive co-operation can be built."

And finally Mirza Afzel Beg -- the chief of the plebiscite Front and a very close and trusted associate of Sheikh told a 1500 strong delegates of the front to be prepared for a suitable alternative to the Plabiscite. Similarly Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah a congregation on 23rd August 1974 at the famous Hazratbal Shrine declared that only an Assembly elected by free and fair elections can alone decide about the future of laws enacted or extended to the state after his arrest in 1953. All these and many other political developments at Delhi resulted in an agreement reached between the emissaries of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of Indian on 13th Nov. 1974 and agreed conclusion of which are being reproduced as under;

1. The State of Jammu and Kashmir which is a constitution unit of Union of India shall, in its relation with the Union, continue to be governed by Article 370 of the Constitution of India.
2. The residuary powers of legislation shall remain with the state; however, Parliament will continue to have power to make laws relating to the prevention of activities directed towards disclaiming, questioning or disrupting the sover-

eignty and territorial integrity of India or bringing about cession of a part of the territory of India from the Union or causing insult to the Indian National Flag, the Indian National Anthem and the Constitution.

3. Where any provision of the Constitution of India has been applied to the State of Jammu and Kashmir with adaptations and modifications, such adaptations and modifications can be altered or repealed by an order of the President under Article 370, each individual proposal in this behalf being considered on its merits; but the provisions of a constitution of India already applied to the State of Jammu and Kashmir without adaptation or modification are unalterable.
4. With a view to assuring freedom to the State of Jammu and Kashmir to have its own legislation on matters like welfare measures, cultural matters, social security, personal land and procedural laws, in a manner suited to the special conditions in the state, it is agreed that the State Government can review the laws made by Parliament or extended to the state after 1953 on any matter relatable to the concurrent list and may decide which of them, in its opinion,

needs amendment or repeal. Therefore, appropriate steps may be taken under Article 254 of the Constitution of India. The grant of President's assent to such legislation would be sympathetically considered. The same approach would be adopted in regard to the laws to be made by Parliament in future under the proviso to clause 2 of the Article. The State Government shall be consulted regarding the application of any such law to the State and the views of the state Government shall receive the fullest consideration.

5. As an arrangement reciprocal to what has been provided under Article 368, a suitable modification of that Article as applied to the state should be made by presidential order to the effect that no law made by the legislature of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, seeking to make any change or in the effect of any provision of Constitution of the State of Jammu and Kashmir relating to any of the undermentioned matters, shall take effect unless the bill, having been reserved for the consideration of the President, received his assent; the matters are:

- a) the appointment, powers, functions, duties privileges

and immunities of the Governor, and

- b) the following matters relating to elections, namely, the superintendence, direction and control of elections by the Election commission of India, eligibility for inclusion in the electoral rolls without discrimination, adult suffrage and composition of Legislature Council, being matters specified in Section 138, 139, 140 and 50 of the constitution of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

6. No agreement was possible on the question of nomenclature of the Governor and the Chief Minister and the matter is, therefore, remitted to the principles.

Thereafter, Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi on several occasions hinted at or rather declared about her intentions of bring Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah back to the power. On 6th February 1975, she said, "the basic question in Jammu and Kashmir is not handing over power to an individual but averting confrontation. Thus, the confrontation that was taken up in an unwarranted and hasty manner in 1953 now perhaps became unnecessary for the Government of India. As a result of it Mrs. Indira Gandhi declared in the Parliament of

India on 24th Feb. 1975 the terms of her Governments agreement with Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. In the meanwhile the then, Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir – Mir Qasim on many occasions offered to resign to make room for Sheikh, which he under the direction of Mrs. Gandhi, did on 24th Feb. 1975. But before all this happened, the executive committee of plebiscite Front, on its meeting held on 15th Feb. 1975 approved Centre Sheikh accord. The resignation of Mr. Qasim and his Council of Ministers was accepted by the Governor on 24th Feb. 1975 and on the same day Sheikh met Jai Prakash Narain a veteran freedom fighter and an emerging political force against the 'misrule' of Mrs. Indira Gandhi at that time. While Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah was in Delhi, the Congress Legislative Party expressed faith in the leadership of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah under the direction of Central leadership. Thus a stage was being set to install Sheikh as the Chief Minister of the State with unconditional support of the Congress Legislative Party which at that time was enjoying majority in the Assembly. The very next day i.e. 25th of Feb. 1975 send Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah assuming the office of the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and along with him Mirza Afzal Beg, D.D. Thakur, Sonam Narboo took the oath as the Cabinet Ministers. Although the confrontation between Centre and State came to an end yet the Janna Sangh - a prominent political party believing in the

supremacy of Hindus in the political field of the country observed a 'black day' to protest against the installation of Sheikh as he Chief Minister of the State. It is interesting to note that the Janna Sangh was the only political party within the country to oppose the Centre-Sheikh accord while outside the country, China the nation that considers India as not a friendly country described the Centre-Sheikh accord as "Indian annexation of Kashmir". This statement of China was issued on 4th March 1975. However, the Indian Parliament approved the Centre-Sheikh accord on 13th of March 1975. Meanwhile, it became the endeavour of the Sheikh to try to get the Pradesh Congress merged with his National Conference. After many hectic parleys Pradesh Congress Committee rejected the suggestion made by National Conference leadership for its merger with National Conference on June, 9, 1975. But all the hopes were not yet exhausted till Mrs. Indira Gandhi publically rejected Sheikh's plea for the merger of Pradesh Congress with National Conference on 11th of October 1975. In the meanwhile many important developments were seen on the political scene of the country which influenced the political history of the State. One of such important developments was the decision of Allahabad High Court which held Mrs. Indira Gandhi guilty of corrupt practices in her election to the Lok Sabha (The Indian Parliament). She instead of accepting the verdict of the High Court or challenging it in the

Supreme Court of India chose to declare emergency in the country and got the constitution amended to suit her political carrier. She, however, took the ever mounting popular public opinion expressed in the forms of Band Calls and some other measures adopted by the then popular leader Jai Prakash Narain as a pretext for declaring emergency in the country. But on the Kashmir issue she ruled out any confrontation between the centre and the Sheikh on 14th October, 1975. Similar opinion was expressed by the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir L.K. Jha on 9th Feb. 1976. But the differences of Centre and Sheikh on the future of Congress Party continued and it was on 13th of April, 1976 that Sheikh revived his old political party -- National Conference and was elected its President and barely twelve days after that i.e. on 24th April, 1976, at the Annual Session of National Conference Sheikh tried to undermine the affinity between National Conference and Congress Party.

The Sheikh administration introduced many progressive measures the important being the Nationalization of 'A' Class passenger service on Jammu-Srinagar highway on April, the 10th 1976, a new Agrarian Reform Bill was introduced and passed to which the Governor gave his assent on 21st August, 1976. Sheikh also introduced what the called as single line administration Sheikh decided to hold the Cabinet meeting at district headquarters to take the Government to the

people to mitigate their hardships and decide on the spot whatever is required for the development of the district concern. And at the same time listen to the problems faced by the people and remove them as far as possible on the spot. This practice has not been discontinued by any successive popular Governments.

But despite all its outward postures, the Congress Party keeps its pressure on the Sheikh administration by adopting measures which ill suited Sheikh's plan of action. On 21st October 1976. Sheikh announced that he would expand his Cabinet to accommodate the Congress representation in it but probably on the instructions of the Central leadership Congress men failed to turn up on schedule time and date (25th Oct., 1976) for the swearing in ceremony. Congressmen however, took the oath of office latter. In this atmosphere of dilly-dallying the Prime Minister announced the general elections and National Conference agreed on electoral adjustments for six Lok Sabha seats in the Jammu Kashmir on fifty basis. Another important development of this period was that Jammu and Kashmir Assembly which was heavily loaded with congressmen owing allegiance to Mrs. Indira Gandhi extended its own life from five to six years thereby putting the elections off for another year. This was done on 10th Feb. 1977. However, the Lok Sabha elections of 1977 changed the entire political scene of the country. Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Congress lost the elections and Morarji

Desai became the choice of new parliament for the Prime Ministership of the country. But the Congress Party kept its pressure on Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah who now wanted to maintain good relation with the new Central Government. As a result of it Congress Party withdrew its support to the Sheikh Government on 25th March 1977 and urged the Governor of the state to invite the congress to form the Government. But Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah reacted by recommending to the Governor the dissolution of the Assembly. The Governor acting on the advice of the outgoing Chief Minister dissolved the Assembly and thus state was put under Governor's rule for the first time in the history of independent India. This was done on 26th March, 1977. Thus in a bid to capture the power in the state, which Congress offered to Sheikh in the best interest of the country only about a year back, the party (Congress) failed to achieve any of the objective. But on the other hand the new Government at the Centre was well meaning having full faith in the democratic processes. As a result of this policy, the Union Home Minister promised fair and free elections to the State Assembly within three months. This assurance by the Home Minister was given while participating in a discussion on the dissolution of the State Assembly on 29th March 1977. Sheikh, with whom the Congress Party could not keep its agreement, became its critic and declared that Congress strangled the democracy during the

entire period of emergency. Sheikh then turned to Jaya Prakash Narayan. And finally after the Assembly elections Sheikh's National Conference by winning the majority of the seats was able to form its own Government in the State. It was on the 8th July 1977 that Governor L.K.Jha invited Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah to form the Government just after three and half months. So Sheikh was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir on 9th July 1977. The Home Minister under the leadership of Morarji Desai a staunch supporter of democracy kept his promise by allowing free and fair elections in the state within three months. It is important to note that Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, who on May 23, 1977 threatens secession if "we are assured place of honour and dignity in terms of safeguards provided under Article 370 of Constitution, '62 was a totally changed. This fact can be supported by the address of the Governor to the joint Session of the State Legislature in Srinagar in which he declared that "Jammu and Kashmir have once again endorsed accession of the state to India by voting in large numbers in Assembly elections for National Conference 63." Further on 9th September 1979 Sheikh once again declares that "there is no Kashmir problem and if there is any it is between India and Pakistan"63. During the entire period of Sheikh's administration of the state people seemed to be fully satisfied. Nevertheless it was during his tenure that Sheikh had to face a couple

of agitations from Jammu and Ladakh region for the economic disparities caused by his pro-valley policy in respect to the planned economic development. The people of Ladakh and Jammu regions demanded the allocation of funds on the basis of population, area and backwardness, on the lines adopted by the centre.

However, Mrs. Indira Gandhi returned to power in early 1980 and held discussion with Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah to improve states relation with the centre on 18th Feb, 1980. But in the meanwhile some differences again surfaced between Sheikh and Mrs. Gandhi and Sheikh had to admit that differences are of personal nature and have nothing to do with politics. In the meanwhile Sheikh was growing old, ill and weak. So he handed over the reign of his party-National Conference to his son Dr. Farooq Abdullah M.P. The differences between congress and the National Conference could not be settled and as a result of it, Mohi-ud-Din Shah, General Secretary of the National Conference had to say on 25th October 1981, that the Congress(I) in the state should wind up and join National Conference. Nevertheless, the relations between congress and National Conference never reached a breaking point partly because of the immense support that Sheikh enjoyed among his people and partly because of little or no base of the congress in the valley. Sheikh, however, had to face number of disturbing situations at the fag end of his life. The important being the

Kishtwar agitation for declaring, Kishtwar as a separate district. Similarly Sheikh's differences with his son-in-law reached a point of no return when the latter resigned as a cabinet minister incharge of power and works on 19th August 1982. Sheikh probably knew that his end is near so he inducted his son Dr. Farooq Abdullah in his cabinet as a minister for health on 22nd August 1982. And ultimately inevitable had to happen and Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah passed away from this world on September the 8th, 1982. It is said that no leader of Indian sub-continent was given such a tearful farewell as it was in the fate of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. He really ruled on the hearts of the Kashmiris right from early thirties till his death. It was an unprecedented in the history that both the Prime Minister and the President of the nation would have joined the last rites of any departed leader. But this happened in the case of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah was sworn in as the Chief Minister of the State on 8th September 1982 after the death of his illustrious father and was unanimously elected as leader of National Conference Legislature Party on 11th September 1982. Ever since Dr. Farooq Abdullah assumed office he was not going on very well with the Congress Party -- the ruling party at the centre. And ultimately he had to recommend to the Governor to dissolve the Assembly to hold fresh elections. The Governor while dissolving the Assem-

bly on 18th April 1983 also wrote to the Election Commission to hold the elections in the last week of May 1983. Election Commission, however, fixed June 5th for the elections to the State Assembly. In the elections, as is usual, charges and counter charges were levelled against each other thereby disturbing the, whatever, relations were existing between National Conference a regional party and Congress(I) a National Party. But as was expected Farooq received a massive mandate and was re-elected the leader of National Conference Legislative Party on 11th June 1983. But the Congress Party was trying its best to put hardly in his way.

Reacting to such manoeuvres by the Congress, Farooq on 17th July 1983 declared that the challenge to his duly elected Government from the Centre will give rise to disastrous consequences. But the Congress in the power, would not like to read the writings on the wall. Meanwhile, it perhaps became clear to Dr. Farooq Abdudllah that the Centre would not allow him to function for his full term and he, therefore, assured himself perhaps by declaring that no powers on earth can topple my Government" on 10th November 1983. But on 11th November, Congress(I) General Secretary, Rajiv Gandhi observed that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is abnormal and on 29th December he ultimately demanded the central action in Jammu and Kashmir is disturbed. And finally on 23rd May G.M.Shah, the brother-in-law of

Farooq Abdullah claimed that he enjoys the majority support of National Conference members of Assembly. And on July, the second 1984 duly elected Government of Farooq Abdullah was dissolved and G.M.Shah backed by Congress(I) assumed office of the Chief Minister of the State with D.D.Thakur as D.C.M.. In the protest demonstration against this type of action of the centre three people were killed in Srinagar on 1st August 1984. Dr.Farooq Abdullah veiws to out Mrs.Indira Gandhi as she according to him was the biggest threat to the unity and freedom of the country. This he said it on October 28,1984. The support that Dr.Farooq enjoyed among his people can be gauged by the fact that Farooq's National Conference won all the three Lok Sabha seats from the Kashmir Valley in the general election held after the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi on 31st October 1984.

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi emerged as the new Prime Minister of India after the death of his mother and decided to support the minority Government of G.M. Shah. But every body in the Congress as outside it, knew that G.M. Shah does not enjoy the support of the people but Rajiv Gandhi declared in April 1985 that is no reason why Shah Government should not run its full term.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah realising that he cannot capture the power without the help of the Central Government started hob'nobbing with the Congress(I) leadership at Delhi. On

the other hand Congress(I) leadership knew fully well that they are supporting a puppet Government in Jammu and Kashmir much against the wishes of the people and were looking forward for such an imitative from the Farooq Abdulla who at that time represented the popular support of the masses under such like political climate Farooq on 21st of June 1985 favoured an agreement with Congress(I) which he thought was in larger National Interest. But the subsequent events, as we shall see will prove that such an agreement was much less in national interest but more in the combined interest of National Conference (F) and Congress(I). But on the other hand Congress(I) was keeping its options open and tried to convince the National Conference (Khalida) the ruling party of the state at that time to merge with Congress(I). The Chief Minister, G.M. Shah and his wife Khalidas Shah the President of N.C. (K) met the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on 29th July 1985 to discuss the merger issue but the more failed to clinch the deal. Dr. Farooq Abdullah under such like situation tried to please the Rajiv and on August 2, 1985 extended his whole-hearted support to him so that the political uncertainty prevailing in the State finds an agreeable end. Farooq Abdullah went a step further in declaring that there is no need for any agitation to get rid of "Shah Government in view of his gaining friendship with Rajiv Gandhi. This statement which was made on 2nd August 1985, indicated that the

prevailing democracy in the state was nothing but a farce. It clearly showed that, whosoever, would be closer to Rajiv Gandhi (and not even the Central Government as a whole) would only be able to rule the democratic, secular State of Jammu and Kashmir. So in order to become the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, the only prerequisite condition was not the support of the masses but the friendship of Rajiv Gandhi. This growing Rajiv-Farooq friendship perhaps was the cause of the withdrawal of Congress(I) support to G.M. Shah Ministry. It was on 6th March 1986 that Congress(I) while withdrawing its support to Shah directed Shah and D.D. Thaukar -- a powerful political leader of the time to extend their support to Dr. Farooq Abdullah which they did as faithfulls. But Farooq who at that time was riding a popular wave rejected this support with the contempt it deserved. As a result of it, then Governor, Jagmohan under Section 92 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir State tookover the administration of the State. He became an instrument in toning up the civil administration and taking initiative several welfare measures. Exactly six months after the Governor's rule from 7th March 1986, the Presidential Rule under Article 356 of the Constitution of India was imposed for the first time in the history of Independent India. The Governor's and President's Rule in the Jammu and Kashmir State remained one of the memorable rule, the people of Jammu and Kashmir ever

had. Number of Welfare Schemes were undertaken. Notwithstanding his – the Governor's personalised character of Administration a lot of works in the fields of education, environment rural and urban development were undertaken and completed during his short tenure of only eight months. He was responsible for the construction of nearly 1700 new school buildings at the cost of Rs. 15 crore in the rural areas. Established 14 model schools costing about Rs. 28 crores. Many existing schools were upgraded during his tenure. In the field of higher and technical education he established four degree colleges and two women Polytechnics. In short he saw during his tenure as the Governor of the State to look and behave like a true Governors which found favour with all sections of the population.

On 7th November 1986, Dr. Farooq Abdullah was installed as the Chief Minister heading a National Conference(F) – Congress(I) alliance Government. Thus a democratic rule with parties committed not to policies and programmes but to two individuals was restored. Nevertheless a mid term Assembly election took place in March 1987 where in Farooq's National Conference won 39 out of 73 seats for which the elections were held as 24 seats of the Assembly were captured by Congress(I). It was on 26th of March 1987 that new coalition ministry headed by Dr. Farooq Abdullah was sworn in.

But the election of 1987 became

most controversial election as according to the reports these elections were rigged beyond the existing rigging record of the state elections since the inception of democratic rule in the state except of course in the 1977 elections conducted under Janta Regime in the centre. It was on 5th May 1987 that the ex-Chief Minister G.M. Shah wrote to the National opposition leaders against the unconstitutional methods by Rajiv and Farooq. Notwithstanding all this the coalition ministry headed by Farooq Abdullah continued without carrying for the popular sentiments against the rigging of the elections.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir in general and Kashmir Valley in particular were very much upset over the out come of these elections. Dr. Farooq Abdullah would have remained a popular leader had he not entered to an agreement with much disliked Congress(I) Party in the valley. But he knew fully well that the party in power at New Delhi would never allow him to function as head of the Government in the state with out making an alliance with it. Under such like circumstances the choice for Dr. Abdullah was but limited.

During this latest tenure of Dr. Farooq Abdullah as Chief Minister the anti-social and antinational elements found very suitable climate to establish their roots deep inside the minds of the people. It is during this period i.e, 1987-89 that terrorist's demand for independent Kashmir not

only gained momentum but such like conditions were, as alleged, created where in public was made to believe that there is no government worth the name as it is the terrorists whose writ runs in the state. General public was demoralised and started toeing the line of the terrorists. The Congress(I) National Conference(F) alliance government however made some efforts but failed to achieve the desired results. Notwithstanding all this government made certain glaring mistakes. The release of seven terrorists some of them dreaded ones can be cited as an example of the government's failure.

When such like situation was prevailing in the state the people of the country got an opportunity to elect their 9th Lok Sabha (The Indian Parliament). The people rejected the Congress(I) in the north but the Congress(I) President Rajiv Gandhi was returned to the Parliament, as alleged, by rigging the election. Yet the Government in the centre was changed as Janta Dal a newly emerged political party gained the power in the centre.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah continued as Chief Minister of the State till the newly elected Government at the centre appointed a new Governor of the State in the wake of the resignation of Gen. V.K. Krishana Rao as the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir. The situation was fast deteriorating in the

state. Dr. Abdullah would not have got a better opportunity to get away from the responsibility of administering the state under the hostile conditions though the responsibility for the creation of such like conditions squarely lies on the shoulders of Congress(I) as N.C.(F) government. Nevertheless Dr. Abdullah resigned in protest against the appointment of the new Governor by the centre without consulting him. But the Union Home Minister issued a statement that he informed the Chief Minister -- Dr. Abdullah about the appointment of Sh. Jagmohan as the Governor of the State. This cut no ice with him. Under such like circumstance the Governor's rule was once again imposed on the State in Jan. 1990 with Sh. Jagmohan as Governor.

Jagmohan is not new to the people of the state as he was the Governor when the President's rule, as we have seen earlier, was imposed for the first time in the state. He worked for the social and economic development of the people and, therefore, people of the state not only remember him but adore him also. He is now fighting the terrorists, antisocial and antinational elements in the Valley of Kashmir -- a problem created by the previous government. He seems to have controlled the situation in the valley as it is a matter of time only that he will be able to restore the normalcy in the state.

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III

THE PEOPLE

The history of census operations in Jammu and Kashmir State goes back to 1873 AD when the first attempt was made to take the census in state. The results achieved through this census can be said to be far from being satisfactory. However, the census operations, in complete conformity with the principles and the directions emanating from Government of India, were conducted in 1911 to 1941. Nevertheless, the census operations were conducted in 1891 and 1901 AD also but with less accuracy as these operations were not linked and governed by the instructions and directions of the Government of India. Again due to the partition of the country the conditions for conducting census in 1951 in the state were not conducive. Thereafter a regular census were conducted in the state in 1961, 1971 and 1981 as a part of Census of India. The different aspects of the population of the state are being discussed in the following pages taking all these census reports into consideration.

GENERAL

The total population the state according the 1981 census is placed at

59.87, 389 persons which according to 1971 census stood at 46,16,632 persons thereby registering an increase of 13,70, 757 people in absolute terms which when converted to percentage increase amounts to 29.69. The population of Jammu region comprising six districts increased from 20,75,640 in 1971 to 27,18,103 in 1981. Thus an absolute increase of 6,42,463 persons makes a high percentage of 30.95, which is higher than the percentage increase of the state as a whole (29.69) during the same period.

DENSITY OF POPULATION

The density of population, in the state as a whole is 20.77 persons per sq. km. But the Kargil and Leh district which include more than 43 per cent area of the state show as low density as 2.28 persons sq. km. This remarkable event upsets the entire scenario of population distribution. A look at Table 3.1 would show quite large variations in respect to the density of population in the entire Jammu region. Jammu district is the most thickly populated district of the region with 231.9 persons per sq. km. The Kathua district with 103.6 persons per sq. km. stands at number

two in the region which is closely followed by Rajouri district with 81.07 persons per sq. km. However, Poonch district is very close to Kathua district (103) but Udhampur with 74.48 persons per sq. km. stands at higher level than the Doda district which accommodates only 29.27 persons per sq. km.

But according to the 1981 census an overall increase in the population has resulted in the increased density of population. The population density of the state recorded an increase from 20.77 to 26.94 persons per sq. km. in general but there seems a substantial change in the density of urban population of the state from 2,182.1 to 3,204.68 in particular. The change in the rural density of population has not been that spectacular as we see that it increased from 16.94 to merely 21.30 persons per sq.km. The change in the concentration of population in different district of the region is almost on the similar lines is witnessed during 1971 census. In the Jammu district for instance overall density increased from 231.19 in 1971 to 298.07 persons sq. km. in 1981. Corresponding change from rural and urban areas were recorded from 175.47 to 215.53 and from 2,240.5 to 3,274.51 persons per sq. km. respectively. The largest concentration of populations after Jammu district seems to exist in the Kathua district which shows the density per sq. km. of area as 139 which is reduced to 123.7 in case of the rural areas and enhanced to

5,248.75 persons per sq.km. for urban areas of the district in 1981. Similarly Udhampur district which supported 74.48 person per sq.km. in 1971 now maintains 90.47 persons in 1981. The density of population in the urban areas increased from 2,291.85 persons in 1971 to 3,487 persons per sq.km in 1981. Almost similar changes are seen in case of other districts of the region in respect of density of population (Table 3.1).

Except for Jammu district no area of the region exceeds the national density of 221 persons per sq. km. But even this seems due to the fact that Jammu is the capital (winter) city of the state economics of scale are tilted towards it which in turn is responsible for attracting more people towards it. But all other districts are far below the national average in respect to their arithmetic density. This comparative low arithmetic density can never be taken as a low pressure on the natural resources of the region, for due to hilly nature of the region man-land ratio is very low. Moreover, precipitous slopes less developed means of communications and harsh climate makes all difference for the utilization of whatever, resources are available due to harsh environmental conditions, man is unable to occupy and put to use large areas in the mountainous region thus affecting the density of population. As a result of it the comparative low arithmetic density should be viewed in the context of total resource base available in the

TABLE 3.1
Area and Population (Area in sq. km. and Density per sq. kms.)

District	1971					1981										
	Total Area	Total Popu.	Density	Rural Area	Rural Popu.	Rural Density	Urban Area	Urban Popu.	Urban Density	Total Popu.	Density	Rural Popu.	Rural Density	Urban Popu.	Urban Density	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
J&K State	222236.0	4616632	20.77	221842.7	3758	16.94	393.3	858221	2182.10	59873-89	26.94	4726986	21.30	1260403	3204.68	
Jammu	3165.0	731743	231.19	3079.6	540401	175.47	85.4	191342	2240.5	943395	298.07	663751	215.53	279644	3274.51	
Udhampur	4549.0	338846	74.48	4536	310427	68.43	12.4	28419	2291.85	453636	99.72	410389	90.47	43247	3487.66	
Doda	11691.0	342220	29.27	11655.9	322684	27.68	35.1	19536	556.58	425262	36.37	400088	34.32	25174	717.20	
Kathua	2651.0	274671	103.6	2643.0	249586	94.43	8.0	25085	3135.6	369123	139.23	327132	123.77	41990	5248.75	
Rajouri	2681.0	217373	81.07	2668.3	208976	78.31	12.7	8397	661.18	302500	112.83	286667	107.43	15833	1246.69	
Poonch	1658.0	170787	103.00	1643.1	156984	95.54	14.9	13803	926.37	224197	135.22	210026	127.82	14171	951.07	

Calculated from the data obtained from Digest of Statistics, 1981-82 Directorate of Economic and Statistics p.2.

region which of course would make this density substantially higher than it apparently appears.

DECADAL VARIATION IN POPULATION

There have been interesting decadal variation in the population of the state from 1901 onwards. There was an increase of 7.16 per cent from 1901 to 1911. From 1911 to 1921 the percentage increase fell from 7.16 per cent in the previous decade to 5.75 per cent. This reduction can be explained in terms of the loss of life and its adverse affect on the growth rate of population during the First World War. The decadal variation in the population from 1921 to 1951 in the state remained almost static with 10.14, 10.36 and 10.42 per cent increase during 1921-31, 1931-41 and 1941-51 respectively.

During the decade 1951-61 the per cent increase in population was recorded as 9.44 per cent which was slightly less than the previous decades increase of 10.42 per cent. This decrease can be attributed to the migration of the state's population both within and outside the country. A large number of people coming from the areas of the state now illegally held by Pakistan moved out of the state to resettle themselves in various parts of the country. Not only this a large section of state's population migrated to Pakistan thereby affecting the percentage increase of the population during this decade. But during the last two decade there has

been a substantial increase in the population which is slightly more than 3 times over the increase during the decade 1951-61 (Table 3.2). This significant to note that the State of Jammu and Kashmir has not recorded the negative growth rate through out the history of census operations except of course at some districts.

Further analysis of the Table 3.2 gives an insight into the decadal percentage change into the population structure of the different districts of the Jammu region. The negative growth rate has never been recorded in the region since the census operations began in the state except of course the districts of Jammu (1901-11), Kathua (1901-11 and 1911-21) and Rajouri (1941-51) and (1951-61).

The negative growth rate during the decade 1901-11 in the districts of Jammu and Kathua finds its explanation in the spread of diseases like cholera plague and malaria etc. in the region. But the negative growth rate in the Kathua district during 1911-21 has a different explanation. The Rajput and the Brahman communities which form a major section of the population of Kathua district have a tradition of adopting soldiery as their profession. This, therefore, resulted in the deaths of large number of soldiers of the district who joined the Indian Army during the First World War. The negative growth rate of the Rajouri districts has still different explanation. The Rajouri district said one of the worst ever communal disharmony

TABLE 3.2
Decadal Variation in Population Since 1901

Percentage Decadal Variation in Population								
District	1901-11	1911-21	1921-31	1931-41	1941-51	1951-61	1961-71	1971-81
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
J&K State	+ 7.16	+ 5.75	+ 10.14	+ 10.36	+ 10.42	+ 9.44	+ 29.65	+ 29.69
Jammu	- 4.24	+ 2.26	+ 10.96	+ 15.03	10.23	9.28	41.40	28.92
Udhampur	+ 7.52	+ 4.45	+ 6.38	+ 8.63	+ 10.28	+ 9.32	+ 31.43	+ 33.87
Doda	+ 8.10	+ 0.87	+ 13.68	+ 7.38	+ 16.52	+ 14.18	+ 30.38	+ 24.27
Kathua	- 1.60	- 1.60	+ 4.65	+ 10.27	+ 8.40	+ 7.75	+ 31.62	+ 34.38
Rajouri	+ 7.74	7.22	5.52	10.79	- 3.40	- 3.52	+ 26.73	+ 39.16
Poonch	9.80	5.13	8.25	10.17	+ 5.01	+ 4.87	10.52	+ 31.27

during 1941-51 the years of partition and the armed intrusion by Pakistan aided tribals. This resulted in large number of killings of both Muslims and the Hindus and subsequent migration of the population of safer places out side the district during 1951-61 decade and hence the negative growth rate during these two decades yet in all other districts the growth rate has surely remained positive but with wide variations over the decades. For instance lowest positive growth rate of 0.87 per cent during 1911-21 in case of Doda district can again be attributed to the First World War. The First World War seems to have affected the growth rate of almost all the districts of the region except perhaps Rajouri where people are not traditionally attracted towards the army. The population of the state as well as the region started showing a considerable increase from 1961 onwards. And, therefore, we find that there is an increase of 29.65 and 29.69 per cent during 1961-71 and 1971-81 respectively in the state. The corresponding increases in different districts of the region is higher than the percentage increase of the state for 1961-71 except for Rajouri and Poonch districts. This low increase in these two districts can again be attributed to the two major developments in the region. Both these districts are hilly and very close to the line of actual control and above all this as stated earlier these districts have seen one of the worst communal disharmony during the partition of the country and subsequent developments. The people

of these districts, therefore, are very much susceptible to the developments across the borders. The armed conflict between India and Pakistan in 1965 and then the period of hibernation of Bangladesh and strained relation with Pakistan resulting in Indo-Pak War of 1971 encouraged the people of these districts to move outside to seek safer places for their existence. And before these people could reach their respective districts, census operation might have already been completed. The highest percentage increase in the population of Jammu district from 1961-71 is perhaps due to the migration of rural population to the urban centre. But this process seems to have been discouraged during the next decade due to the economic principles operation in the region when growth rate fall down from 41.40 per cent during 1961-71 to 28.92 per cent during 1971-81. Like Jammu, Doda district has also shown a downward trend i.e., from 30.38 per cent during 1961-71 to 24.27 per cent during 1971-81 perhaps due to similar reasons. Growth rate in all other districts has shown an upward trend with substantial high increase in the Poonch and Rajouri district (Table 3.2).

RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION

Almost all the major religions of the country are represented in the Jammu and Kashmir State. The Jammu region is, therefore, no exception but the degree of concentration varies considerably in respect to all the religions. The State of Jammu and Kashmir is predominantly a Muslim

state for more than 64 per cent of its total population includes Muslims. The Hindus (32.24 per cent), Sikhs (2.23) and the Buddhist (1.16%) are the other important religious represented in the state. The percentage share of the Christians and the Jains is less than one in the religious composition of the state.

In the Jammu region the religious composition of the population presents an entirely different scenario. Although 93.36 per cent of the total Hindu population of the state is represented in this region and yet it forms merely 30.09 per cent of the total population of the state. The variation in the spatial distribution of the Hindu population is sufficiently wide. The Hindus in the Poonch district are very poorly represented with 0.9 per cent of their own population in the region and 0.27 per cent of the total population of the state (table 3.3). The Jammu district represents 45.71 per cent of the Hindu population of the region and 42.69 per cent of the total Hindu population of the state. Yet the Hindu population of the Jammu district is only 13.76 per cent of the total population of the state. The Udhampur and the Kathua are the other districts where the Hindu population is represented significantly with 18.16 and 18.66 per cent of the total Hindu population of the region respectively. The Hindus in the Rajouri and in the Poonch districts are very poorly represented (Table 3.3).

Although the numerical strength of the Sikhs in the total population of the state is not very significant yet their contributions in the development of various sectors of economy are impressive. The contribution of Sikhs in the field of transport, agriculture and defence of the country needs no emphasis. The Sikhs are second to none in any other field be it education, engineering or industry. The impact of Sikhs in the field of sports is singularly commendable. And all this is despite their insignificant share (2.23 per cent) in the total population of the state.

The wide spatial variation in the distribution of the Sikh population in the state in general and Jammu region in particular can be gauged from the fact that more than 53 per cent of the total Sikh population of the state and more than 71 per cent of Jammu region is concentrated in the Jammu district alone. Obviously the Sikhs should have more than 1 per cent (1.20) of the total population of the state (2.23%) concentrated in Jammu district. The Poonch and the Rajouri district respectively accommodate 6.08 and 5.48 per cent of the total Sikh population in the state. The Kathua and the Udhampur are the other district which contain 4.54 and 4.29 per cent of the Sikh population of the state respectively while the corresponding percentage of the Sikh population in the region stands at 6.07 and 5.73 for these two districts. The Sikhs are least

TABLE 3.3
Population by Religion in 1981

District	Hindus	% to the total Hindu Popu. of the Region	% to the tot- Hindu Popu. of the State	% to the total Popu. of the State	Sikhs	% to the total Sikh Popu. of the Region	% to the Sikh Popu. of the State	% to the total Popu. of the State	Muslims	% to the total Muslim Popu. of the Region	% to the total Muslim popu. of the State	% to the total Popu. of the State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Jammu	824209	45.71	42.69	13.76	72034	71.91	53.88	1.20	40309	5.00	1.04	0.67
Udhampur	327538	18.16	16.96	5.47	5741	5.73	4.29	0.09	118987	14.78	3.09	1.98
Doda	179538	9.95	9.30	2.99	847	0.84	0.36	0.01	243666	30.28	6.33	4.06
Kathua	336503	18.66	17.43	5.62	6082	6.07	4.54	0.10	25699	3.19	0.66	0.42
Rajouri	118705	6.58	6.14	1.98	7326	7.31	5.48	0.12	176302	21.91	4.58	2.94
Poonch	16339	0.90	0.84	0.27	8134	8.12	6.08	0.13	199674	24.81	5.19	3.33
Total of the State		100%	93.36	30.09	100164 133675	100.	74.63	1.655 2.23	804637 3843451	100%	20.89	13.4

Total Population of the State = 5987389

represented in the Doda district where the percentage share of the Sikh population of the region is only 0.84 per cent which reduces itself to a still meagre figure of 0.36 per cent when the total population of the community in the state is considered.

Muslims who are the majority community of the state (64.19%) are represented by only 13.4 per cent figure in the region and yet they are second only to the Hindus in their numerical strength, which as we have seen, forms 30.09 per cent of the total population of the state including of course the Harijan population in it. The total population, according to 1981 census, of Muslims in the Jammu region when expressed in absolute numbers comes to be 8,04,637 which is only 20.9% of the total Muslim population of the state (38,43,451).

In the Jammu region Muslim population is not evenly distributed. The highest concentration of the Muslims is evidently in the Doda district where 30.28 per cent of the total Muslim population of the region is accommodated. The Poonch and Rajouri districts situated to the north-west of the Jammu region together contain 46.72 per cent of the total Muslim population of the region. The Udhampur district with 14.78 per cent of the Muslim population of the region can said to have a respectable position insofar as the share of Muslim population in the region is concerned. The Muslims are least represented in the Kathua and the Jammu districts where

the percentage share of their population in the region falls down to 3.19 and 5.0 respectively (Table 3.3).

Christians mostly the converts from the schedule caste communities is yet another religious group represented in the region. As per 1981 census the total population of the Christians is reported to be 7778 which is only 0.286 per cent of the total population of the Jammu region and 0.129 per cent of the total population of the State. The spatial distribution of the christian population both in the state as well as in the Jammu region is highly uneven 78.92 per cent of the total Christian population of the state and 86.08 per cent of it in the Jammu region is concentrated in the Jammu district alone. The Kathua district, another district dominated by the Hindu population, has a concentration of the Christian population to the tune of 10.5 per cent of their total population in the region. However, the Christians are very poorly represented in the Poonch and the Doda districts where we have noticed the concentration of Muslim population. Thus there seems a positive correlation between the Hindus and the Christian population where as it is not so in case of the Muslim and the Christian population in the region. The Christians are also represented in the Rajouri district. Their total number, according to 1981 census being only 165 in the entire district which forms only 2.12 per cent of the total Christian population of the region.

The total population of the people believing in the Jain and Buddhist faiths when expressed in absolute numbers stands at 1514 and 1141 respectively in the region. This therefore, shows their poor representation. Out of the 1141 Buddhist in the region 1113 (97.5%) are concentrating in the Doda district alone whereas Buddhist are not all represented in the Poonch and Udhampur districts. Their absolute numbers in the Jammu and Kathua district stands at eleven and fifteen only. Concludingly we can say that although Buddhist form 1.16 per cent of the total population of the state yet are very poorly represented in this region (0.129 per cent).

A similar state of affairs can be witnessed in the case of the people believing in the Jain faith but with the difference that more than 96 per cent of the total Jain population of the state is contained in the Jammu region itself. Out of this 89.59 per cent is concentrated in the Jammu district alone thereby speaking of a highly skewed distribution of Jain population not only in the state but in the region as well. The Jains like Buddhists are not represented in all the districts of the region. They do not figure at all in the population composition of the Rajouri and the Poonch districts. Their absolute numbers, according to 1981 census, in the Udhampur, Doda and the Kathua district stands at 8,117 and 4 respectively. Jains Business Community of repute are, therefore, concentrated in the winter capital city of the state which provides them suitable

business environment conducive for their existence and development.

SCHEDULED CASTE POPULATION

Taking the Jammu and Kashmir state as a whole the scheduled caste population has a highly asymmetrical distribution. According to 1981 census 99.88 per cent of the total scheduled caste population of the state is concentrated in the Jammu region leaving, thereby, only 0.12 per cent of SC population for the Kashmir and the Ladakh regions. If we take 1971 census data into consideration a similar situation emerges when we find that 99.92 of the total scheduled caste population was concentrated in the Jammu region. The growth of scheduled caste population from 1971 to 1981 has been to the magnitude of 30.44 per cent for the state as a whole which may be taken more or less for the Jammu region as well (30.39 per cent). The distribution of the scheduled caste population is not even over the space of Jammu region. More than fifty per cent (53.84 per cent) of the total scheduled caste population of the region is concentrated in the Jammu district alone. The Udhampur and the Kathua district together account for another 34.09 per cent of the total scheduled caste population. The Doda district contains 7.48 per cent while the Kathua district accommodates another 4.53 per cent of the total scheduled caste population of the region. The scheduled caste population in the Poonch district is very poorly represented (0.042 per cent).

The scheduled caste population of the state in general and of Jammu region in particular can not be considered as socially oppressed and economically depressed class when we compare them with their counterparts in most of the other states of the Indian union, like Bihar, H.P., U.P. etc. Although their social and economic status compared with the other communities by and large falls below the normal expectations yet they enjoy considerable freedom which is not just possible in other parts of the country mentioned earlier. The fact that 20.08 per cent of the scheduled caste population of the region is literate against an overall literacy rate of 26.67 per cent of the Jammu and Kashmir State as a whole assumes greater significance in view of depressing situations in other states in respect of scheduled caste population.

The Jammu district which accommodates more than 53% of the total scheduled caste population of the region has the distinction of inhabiting the largest number of literature population which when expressed in percentage comes to 27.22. The Rajouri district closely follows the Jammu district where we find that 25.41 per cent of its S.C. Population is literate. Although in the Poonch district 59.33 per cent of its scheduled caste population is literate but the significance of this fact is lost when we see that the absolute number of literate persons is only 124 out of the total population of 209 persons thereby making a very high percentage of literacy in

the district. The Kathua district with 17.95 per cent of the total population of the district as literate occupies a comfortable position in the region in respect of literacy rate. The Udhampur (5.31) and the Doda (3.94) districts show a low percentage of literate scheduled caste population.

A different scenario is witnessed when we see at Table 3.4 to find out the position of both male and female literate population in the rural and urban areas belonging to the Scheduled Caste. Of the total literate persons in the Jammu district 60.32 per cent are the rural males and 21.36 per cent rural females while the corresponding figures for urban males and females stand at 12.12 and 6.18 per cent respective. Similarly 69.91 per cent of the total literate S.C. population of the Rajouri districts are the rural males and 22.95 per cent rural females 4.43 % of the literate population in the districts forms the urban males and 2.69 per cent urban female. Almost similar situation exists in the Kathua district which accommodate 68.32 per cent males and 17.45 per cent female literate population in the rural areas and 10.81 and 3.40 per cent in urban areas respectively of male and female population.

In conclusion it can be said that there is heavy concentration of literate population both male and female in the rural areas where as reverse is true about the urban areas. This is in conformity with the distribution of the population in the country, state and the region as such. (Table 3.4)

TABLE 3.4

Literacy Rate of Scheduled Caste (Census 1981)

District	Total S.C. Popu.	Total Literate S.C. Popu.	Total Literate		S.C. Population		Percentage to the total Literate S.C. Popu.			
			Male	Female	Male	Female	Rural		Urban	
							Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jammu	267508	72829 (27.22)	43928	15561	8828	4503	60.32	21.36	12.12	6.18
Udhampur	85056	4224 (5.31)	3066	219	1142	97	67.77	4.84	25.24	2.14
Doda	37173	1466 (3.94%)	1282	67	104	13	87.44	4.57	7.09	0.88
Kathua	84308	15134 (17.95)	10340	2642	1637	515	68.32	17.45	10.81	3.40
Rajouri	22519	5724 (25.41)	4002	1314	254	154	69.91	22.95	4.43	2.69
Poonch	209	124 (59.33)	112	8	2	2	90.32	6.45	1.61	1.61
Total	496773	99792 (20.88)	62730	19811	11967	5284	62.86	19.85	11.92	5.29

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TABLE 3.5

Population Literacy and Sex Ratio (1981 census)

District/State	Population				Literacy Percentage			Sex ratio (Females per 1000 males)
	Persons	Male	Female		Persons	Male	Female	
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
J & K	5987389	3164660	2822729		26.67 (18.58)	36.29 (26.75)	15.88 (9.28)	89.2 (87.8)
Jammu	943395	491972	451423		42.86 (30.34)	52.60 (39.27)	32.24 (20.63)	91.8 (92.0)
Udhampur	453636	237963	215673		23.52 (15.62)	32.55 (22.72)	13.55 (7.80)	90.6 (90.8)
Doda	425262	223362	201900		18.50 (13.88)	28.59 (22.21)	7.34 (4.47)	90.4 (88.6)
Kathua	369123	192570	176553		31.90 (21.64)	41.67 (30.24)	21.25 (12.30)	91.7 (92.1)
Rajouri	302500	158679	143821		24.73 (14.43)	34.16 (22.21)	14.32 (5.80)	90.6 (90.0)
Poonch	224197	118672	105525		23.39 (14.62)	34.20 (23.26)	11.24 (5.05)	88.9 (90.3)

Note: Figures in the brackets pertain to the 1971 census.

POPULATION LITERACY AND SEX RATIO

The overall literacy ratio in the state is very low (26.67) as compared to the national average of 36.20 percent. If we look at the Table 3.5 and compare the figures pertaining to the literacy of the population both in 1971 (figures shown in brackets) and 1981 we will certainly find the improvement in the literacy rates. Another glaring feature very easily discernable is the difference between the literacy rates among males and females. Female literacy rates in all the cases and both in 1971 and 1981 are falling behind the male literacy rates. Literacy rate in the state has shown an improvement from 18.58 per cent in 1971 to 26.67 per cent in 1981. However, this change has been more pronounced in male population which registered an increase from 26.75 per cent in 1971 to 36.29 per cent in 1981. The corresponding figures for the female population for 1971 and 1981 are 9.28 and 15.88 per cent respectively.

A close examination of Table 3.5 will show that similar phenomenon is evident in every district of the Jammu region. The Jammu district of the region not only shows the highest literacy rate but it has raised the numbers of literate persons from 30.34 per cent to 42.86 per cent over the decade 1971-81. The lowest increase in the literate persons is obvious in the Doda district where the increase is from 13.88 per cent in 1971 to 18.50 per cent in 1981 a meagre increase of only 4.62 per cent. This perhaps is

due to the hilly nature of the district where population is very scanty and educational institutions are located far apart, thereby hindering the process of education. Similar conclusions can be drawn in the case of male and female literacy rates in the different districts of the region. For instance the highest increase in the female literacy is again seen in the Jammu district and the lowest in the Doda district (2.87 per cent). After Jammu, the Kathua district has highest percentage of literate women population (21.25) followed by Rajouri (14.32) which is far less than the Kathua district.

Figures in the Table 3.5 indicate the percentage increase of the male and female literacy in the decade 1971-81 for the Jammu region. It is encouraging to note that there is a substantial increase in the literacy rate of both the sexes but still a lot has to be achieved if the progress in the social and economic fields is to be achieved. This is singularly important, particularly the increase in the female literacy rate, if some progress is to be made in the field of family planning an aspect which is so vital for the economic, social and cultural development of the region.

Sex ratio which is defined as number of female per 1000 males in the population is another important aspect of population study. It has generally been observed that the number of women per thousand men has almost always been less than 1000. Not

TABLE 3.6
Classification of Workers (1981 census)

State/District	Total Popu.	Workers as % of Popu. according to 1971 census	Cultivators	Agricultural labourers	Household Industry Manufacturing, processing, servicing	Other workers	Total Main workers	Marginal workers	Non workers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
J&K	5987389	29.76	1033897 (17.26)	63540 (1.06)	96332 (1.60)	624802 (10.43)	1818571 (30.37)	831473 (13.88)	3337345 (55.73)
Jammu	943395	24.44	105684 (11.20)	13738 (1.45)	3884 (0.41)	128166 (13.58)	251472 (26.65)	120475 (12.77)	571448 (60.57)
Udhampur	453636	31.20	99344 (21.89)	1115 (0.24)	1745 (0.38)	41243 (9.09)	143447 (31.62)	104151 (22.95)	206038 (45.41)
Doda	425262	36.09	107586 (25.29)	3766 (0.88)	2611 (0.61)	28397 (6.67)	142360 (33.47)	42032 (9.88)	240870 (56.54)
Kathua	369123	26.72	64340 (17.43)	6033 (1.63)	2314 (0.62)	33712 (9.13)	106399 (28.82)	53802 (14.57)	208922 (56.59)
Rajouri	302500	27.65	61165 (20.21)	1079 (0.35)	1232 (0.40)	19978 (6.60)	83454 (27.58)	52613 (17.39)	166433 (55.01)
Poonch	224197	27.77	45842 (20.44)	2511 (1.11)	1181 (0.52)	12617 (5.62)	62151 (27.72)	42192 (27.58)	119854 (53.45)

Note: Figures in the brackets show the percentage of the respective class of workers to the total population of the respective District/State.

only this the sex ratio has been deteriorating over the past so many decades and had touched a national low of 930 in 1971. During the decade 1971-81 some improvement has been noticed when the sex ratio has increased from 930 in 1971 to 935 in 1981. The sex ratio in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is far below the national average but still has shown an improvement during the decade 1971-81. The sex ratio during this decade increased from 878 to 892 but is still far less than the national average of 935. All the six districts of the Jammu region show less sex ratio than in the country as a whole. The highest sex ratio in the region is found in the Jammu district (918) which is followed very closely by the Kathua district (917). In both these districts sex ratio declined during the decade 1971-81 which is perhaps curious to note. The Rajouri and the Udhampur districts have identical sex ratio of 906 women per thousand men. However, in the case of Udhampur district sex ratio declined from 908 in 1971 to 906 in 1981 the corresponding figures for the Rajouri district stand at 900 in 1971 and 906 in 1981 a marginal increase. The sex ratio of 904 found in the Doda district is showing a substantial increase from 886 in 1971. Lowest sex ratio is found in Poonch district with 889 female per thousand male. The sex ratio in this district decreased from 903 in 1971 to 889 in 1981.

There are various reasons assigned to low sex ratio in the country in general and the Jammu region in particu-

lar. It is generally believed, of course without any conclusive proof, that there is a preference for the male children which results in some sort of neglect of the female child. High maternal mortality is another reason given for the low sex ratio. In order to have a balanced sex ratio improved medical facilities to both mother and female child will have to be arranged.

Working Population : The population of any region is the most important resource on which the entire activity is based. Over the period of different census operations there has been a gradual improvement about the collection of information regarding the economic activities of the population. In particular as we can say that compared to 1961 and 1971 censuses, 1981 census provides more detailed information in respect of economic activity of the population. There has, however, been a considerable change in the very concept of a worker over the periods of different censuses. According to 1981 census "a worker is defined as a person who had done any economically productive work during the last one year preceding the date of enumeration. According to this definition, the term worker included all the full time workers, seasonal workers, work would generally be considered insignificant".

The picture of workers of different category in the Jammu region would be clear from the Table 3.6. A cursory look at the table would show that all the districts of the region except

Jammu have higher percentage of cultivators than the percentage of the state as a whole (17.26) in this category. The highest percentage of cultivators is found in the Doda district followed by Udhampur (21.89), Poonch (20.44) and Rajouri (20.21) all above the state's percentage of 17.26. However, the Jammu district which contains more urban population as compared to other districts has only 11.20 per cent of its total population as cultivators. The share agricultural labourers in the region seems unimpressive as their percentage never exceeds 1.63 (Kathua). Household industry manufacturing, processing servicing and repairs is another category enumerated in 1981 census the workers in this category can form a suitable indicator for assessing the secondary and tertiary activities in the region. No district in the region shows higher percentage than the percentage of workers engaged in this category in the state as a whole (1.60) which again is very low. This, therefore, shows that the secondary activities in the region are far from being satisfactory.

In the category of other workers are included the workers in forestry fishing, mining and quarrying, manufacturing and repairs electricity gas, and water construction, wholesale and retail trade, restaurant and hotels, transport, storage and communications, financing insurance, real estate and business services, community, social and personal services and all public sector and local self government employees. The total number of

'other workers' in the absolute term in the state is 6,24,802 which is 10.43 per cent of the total population of the state. But in the Jammu region participation of workers in this category except for Jammu district (13.58) is less than the participation at the state level. However, the Udhampur and Kathua districts are very close to the state level participation of workers in 'other workers' category with 9.09 and 9.13 per cent of their respective population participating in this category. The participation of Poonch district with 12,617 workers in this category is the lowest which comes to 5.62 per cent when expressed in percentage. The Rajouri (6.60) and the Doda (6.67) are the other district which show a weak participation of their population in category of 'other workers.'

Taking into consideration the total main workers which include all the categories of columns 4,5,6 and 7 and comparing them with the workers participating in this category according to 1971 census and shown 3 of Table 3.6 a few interesting features emerge. Whereas, there is a marginal increase of 0.61% in the total main workers participation during the decade 1971-81 but even this marginal increase in the state level has not been sustained in all the districts of the Jammu region where we find a slight decline in the percentage share of population in this category of workers, particularly in the districts of Poonch (0.05) and Rajouri (0.07), whereas, a marked decline of 2.62 per cent is discerable in the Doda district. However, there

is a proportional increase in the totals of main workers but with a variation in various districts of the region. For instance Jammu district registered an increase from 24.44 per cent in 1971 to 26.65 per cent in 1981 as main workers of its total population. The corresponding percentages of main workers in 1971 and 1981 for Udhampur and Kathua are placed at 31.20 to 31.62 and 26.72 to 28.82 respectively.

Marginal workers concept is a special feature of 1981 census. A marginal workers accordingly is defined as one who had worked anytime in the last "one year preceeding the date of enumeration but for a period of less than six months". Included in this category for example are the housewives who help their husbands in cultivation or stitching clothes etc. If she has put in her labour in these occupations for less than six months in the year preceeding the date of enumeration she is to be enumerated as marginal worker. As the concept of marginal workers appeared for the first time in 1981 census so no comparison can be attempted as the comparative status are not available for the previous censuses.

However, there are 8,31,473 marginal workers in absolute terms which when expressed as percentage of the total population give a figure of 13.88. In the Jammu region except for the Jammu and Doda districts all other districts have higher participation of the marginal workers than at the state level. 22.95 per cent

population of the Udhampur district is enumerated as the marginal workers which is the highest percentage in the Jammu region. Udhampur is closely followed by the Poonch district with 18.81 per cent Rajouri with 17.39 per cent and the Kathua with 14.57 per cent of their population as marginal workers. Jammu and Doda districts as mentioned earlier fall below the state level with 12.77 and 9.88 per cent population enumerated as marginal workers.

All those persons are classified as non-workers who belong to the categories performing household duties or are students, dependents retired persons or rentiers, beggars, inmates of institutions etc. The decrease in this category of population is surely a sign of progress because except for students category no other section of non-workers is in any way engaged in the gainful activities.

The percentage population of non-workers has decreased from 70.24 per cent in 1971 to 55.73 per cent in 1981 a fall of 14.51 per cent. This trend is more or less repeated in the entire Jammu region sometime with still steeper fall. for instance the fall of non-workers in Poonch district is 18.77 per cent as compared to 1971 census. In the Rajouri district 72.34 per cent population was enumerated as non-workers in 1971 while it is only 55.01 per cent in 1981. Thereby registering a fall of 17.33 per cent. Similarly in the Kathua district 73.28 per cent population was shown as non-worker

in 1971 census which was reduced to 56.59 per cent in 1981 census. Situations in Doda and Udhampur districts are almost similar when we see that in the Doda district non-workers population decreased from 63.41 per cent in 1971 to 56.64% in 1981 and in the Udhampur district corresponding fall is from 68.80% to 45.41 per cent. The condition of the Jammu district is no more different where the fall in the non-workers population has been from 75.55 per cent in 1971 to 55.73 a fall of 19.82 per cent (Table 3.6)

CASTE SOCIAL LIFE HOME LIFE COMMUNAL LIFE

In the Jammu region, as has already been seen in the section dealing with population, Hindus including Harijan form a dominant group among the inhabitants. Nevertheless, Muslims are dominating in certain areas of the region while the Sikhs are sprinkled through out the region with maximum concentration in Jammu district. The Hindu population is further sub-divided into various groups. Important among them are the Rajputs, the Brahmins and the Harijans. The important sub-groups of Rajputs are the Jambhwalas, Sambyals, Jasrotias, Bhaus, Chibs, Charaks, Kotwal, Thakurs, Manhas and the like, Similarly the Brahmins are further divided into innumerable sub-castes having a hierarchy of their own. Among the Scheduled Caste the important sub-groups are the Megh, Batwal, Chammars etc. The Sikhs, although do not believe in the caste system yet they carry the legacy of their original caste

or religion from which they got converted into Sikhism. Similar views can be expressed about the Muslims. We find many identical Hindu and Muslim castes. The example of Hindu Khatana (A Gujjar Caste) and Muslim Khatana will be sufficient to prove the point. The castes are more strictly followed in the Hindu society as compared to the Sikh and the Muslim societies. The scheduled castes in the rural areas in particular are considered untouchable even when the world is entering into the twenty-first century. One can, however, say that there are at least some signs appearing on the social horizons of the urban areas, particularly at comparatively big urban centres, indicating that barriers of the castes are breaking down. The scheduled castes who have been able to acquire a better economic, or official status have completely been accepted by the Hindus but those who are still at the lower position of official or economic ladder are still being considered as untouchables particularly by the uneducated section of the upper caste. Hindus. Although many Harijan or schedule castes have been able to occupy very important positions in public life yet a majority of them are engaged in the agricultural section of our economy. We find many Harijans in every walk of life be it administration, education, technocracy or even in business and business management. The reservation for the scheduled caste in the services, in the professional institutions and concessions in other fields of life have greatly helped them

in acquiring a better social, economic and cultural status. But the unfortunate part of all these development is that, whosoever, among the scheduled castes persons achieves better economic or social status tries to forsover his ties with his community and tries to amalgamate himself in the upper caste of the upper caste of the Hindu society which in this part of the country is not difficult. Harijan (the scheduled castes), however, maintain a hierarchy of castes among themselves as well. Some of them consider themselves highly placed than the others and so on. Harijans normally marry in their own castes. The upper castes 'Hindu' never enters into a matrimonial relation with the Harijans.

However, the people of Jammu region irrespective of caste, creed or religion are simple by nature as all the people of hilly regions usually are. They are open hearted people with humour embeded in their nature. They are as a rule good looking, smart, tall and of well buit physique having fair to wheatish complexions. These characteristics are true particularly in the people belonging to higher castes. And yet these people are in no way equal to the people of Punjab plains in respect of vigour and manly strength. This perhaps in due to comparatively low economic strength due again to less developed soil and other natural, resources.

Rajputs as well as other high caste Hindus of the region attatch a great significance to the purity and clean-

eliness of their food and drink. This purity is maintained by the women folk in the kitchens while the Brahmin cooks see to it in big feasts or on occasions of marriages and other function when they are required to cook for a larger gathering. The women folk would not allow any one to enter their kitchen with footwears on an she would keep her kitchen pure by pasting mud mixed with cow dung. In some extreme cases the women would wash the wood before using it is as a fuel to make sure that her fuel too is pure, nice and clean. This, however, is every rare but still it is there to be seen, before one gets on to eat his meals, he required to wash his hands carefully and remember the name of God he believes in. This is thought to be necessary to infuse solemnity to the act. The staple food of the people varies according to the type of agriculture practiced. In the areas where rice is cultivated it forms the part their diet once a day accompanied by wheat or maize for the other time. This again depends upon the type of agriculture.

The peasantry takes meals almost three times a day starting with breakfast before moving to the fields, a mid day meal and finally a full meat in the evening. Nevertheless, the people living in urban centres and those not engaged in agriculture activities take a light westernised breakfast followed by lunch and dinner. And yet the composition of good is more or less the same in terms of the grain intake. However, the protein corbohydrate and vitamin

contents of food vary and variation is directly proportionate to the economic status and not to the caste or social status of an individual.

The people of the region do drink. The drinking was common among the Rajputs in near past but now it is frequent with other castes also. Even Brahmins are no where behind Rajputs now and among scheduled caste drinking is also not infrequent. Nevertheless in no community drinking is considered to be good and a daily drinker or a person who consumes too much of it is looked down upon by the society as a whole.

The social life of the people of any region is reflected in the festivals and fairs. Right from the Vedic age down to the present times the people of different regions according to their own choices and facilities are continuing to celebrate various festivals and fairs. These festivals fairs bring a pleasant break in the otherwise uneventful rudimentary life style of the people. The celebrations of such festivals and fairs, therefore, bring charm to the life. Most of these festivals are in one way or the other are associated with some religions belief. The important festivals and fairs of Jammu region are celebrated in the following pages.

BAISAKHI

The word Baisakhi is the equivalent of the word "Vaishakh" of Sanskrit which is the first month of the Vikrami Calendar. Thus the 'Baisakhi' being the first day of the month and

the year is important for every section of the society living in the region although for different reasons. This day is considered auspicious, among other things, for marriages. The people take bath in rivers, canals, ponds etc. and think it a part of religious compulsion. In numerous fairs are organised on this day every where in the region where people gather to enjoy. The famous Dance of Punjab is very popular in these fairs and is performed by young people.

The Sikh Community of the region celebrates 'Baisakhi' as an auspicious its birth day. It was on this day of 1699 that the Tenth Guru Gobind Singh Ji made Khalsa out of his disciples and gave them a different shape to look distinct. He converted the most backward and down trodden people coming mostly even from scheduled castes into a martial race by administering 'Amrit' (nectar) especially prepared by him in a specific way. The Sikhs, thus go to Gurudwaras to celebrate their birth day and listen to Kir-tan (Hymn sung in the praise of the God), Offer payers take Langer (the common Kitchen).

RAKSHA BANDHAN (RAKHI)

This festival is the reflection of a sister's love towards her brother. In fact this festival is celebrated throughout India irrespective of caste, creed or religion. The festival falls some where in the month of August every year. The sisters on this day tie a specially designed thread on the wrist of their brothers as a sign of love and

affection. By tying this frail thread the sister expects from her brothers to protect her honour, interest and life any from any unforeseeable danger. This festival, is therefore, a festival charged heavily with sentiments attached with the love between brother and sister. The sisters shower all sort of good wishes to their brothers and the brothers on their part offer gifts to their loving sisters.

Some religious fairs are also attached with this festival. The devotees of the Shiva organise a fair at Buddha Amarnath -- a place near Poonch. Similarly a large number of people offer water on Shiva Linga at Shiv khorhi near Riasi.

At Parmandal and Uttar people organise religious gatherings to offer water on Shiv Linga.

JANAMASHTMI

This festival is more commonly known as Krishna - Janamashtmi and falls in August. In the Sanatan Hindu House holds every member keeps a fast. Younger members are attracted towards fast which allows the use of different fruits which in the month of August are quite common. In the evenings all the temples are thronged by the people of different age groups. Lord Krishna is worshiped and his idol can be seen only after twelve at night -- the time of his birth. During the day time the people in general and young boys in particular indulge in kite flying competitions. The young

girls are keen to have bangles on the wrists forming an association of colours matching their wears.

This festival is closely followed by another similar commonly known as 'Drubrhi'. This in fact is a festival of women folk in which they keep fast. After the day long fast the women folk go either to a spring or a or a Bauli to well to worship the diety. It is believed that due to this fast the women folk get smooth homely life with all sort of protections for their livestock resources.

The people of the Jammu region in general and all sections of the Hindu population in particular celebrate Dusehra, Nauratras and Durga Puja as in other parts of the country. The Ramlila's are organised at local levels. The Ramlila Committees are formed to dramatise the entire life history of Lord Rama and on the Dusehra Day the effigy of Ravana and his kins are burnt to culminate the ten day long celebrations. Besides Rama's victory over Ravana, the Durga Puja also commemorates the victory of Durga over a buffalo -- headed demon. So the diety Durga is also worshiped with great devotion.

Diwali commonly known in the Hindi belt of the country as 'Deepavali' closely follows Dusehra and Durga Puja to commemorate the home coming of Lord Rama after fourteen years of exile. It is also the occasion to celebrate the birth of Lakshmi,

wife a Lord Vishnu, Lakshmi is considered to be goddess of wealth and fortune. The people of the region white wash their houses and illumenate them liveshly. The crakers and fire-work adds beauty to the occasion. Sweets fruits and well wishes are exchanged between the friends and relations depending upon their social and economic status. A lot of hustle and bustle is seen every where.

LOHRHI

Lohrhi is another important festival of Jammu region. The festival falls almost on 13th of January every year. It is also known as Makkar Sankranti. The festival is an indication of approaching spring season. The people take dip in holy rivers. There are various games associated with the festival in the region. The Harna- Harna game is very famous associated with Lohrhi particularly in the rural areas. In the rural areas some boys while riding on a cannel go to the selected houses where they ask for gifts either from the newly wed couples or from the parents of newly born male child. A special dance called 'Chhajja Dance' is performed in the Jammu region on the Lohri festival. The boys along with their 'Chajja' move out of their houses and dance to the tune of a drum beat with some sticks in their hands commonly known as 'Dandar-san'. At night, which is usually a chilly one, some wood is burnt in the open around which people sing dance and eat dry fruits, and various other items prepared for the occasion.

BASANT PANCHMI

Basant Panchmi or the festival of spring falls in either late January or early February. The people celebrate the festival by wearing yellow coloured clothes with music and enjoy the day. Although the custom of wearing yellow clothes, in the urban areas on Basant Panchmi, appears to be diminishing. Yet it is very much prevalent in the rural areas of the region subject of course to the economic viability. It is beyond the reach of the rural poor to wear a yellow clothes yet it is possible at least to cook a yellow dish on that day. There are places in the region where Basant Panchmi fairs are also organised. These fairs are well attended and every body supporting yellowish dress gives a district look to the fair. Bhangra and various other local dances are very common on such like fairs.

Holi the festival of colours and Shiv Ratri are the other important festivals of the Jammu region. These festivals are celebrated in the region almost on the lines as they are celebrated in rest of the country.

In addition the foregoing account of festivals, dances and other social and cultural aspects of the people of Jammu region we will be failing in our endeavour if we omit the mention of the dances and yatras of Kish-tawar and Bhaderwah valleys. These valleys can conveniently be considered as the replica of Kashmir Valley in respect of their climatic conditions and natural charm.

In the Kishtawar and its side valleys such as Thakrai, Nagsen and Paddar etc. the people celebrate the different festivals by organising communal dances. They dance and sing the local songs in a chorus. The dances are usually performed around fire throughout night. The people from quite long distances come to participate and enjoy these dances locally called 'Zagru' which more or less resembles the 'Kud' dance of Bhaderwah valley.

PILGRIM CENTRES AND THEIR ASSOCIATED YATRAS

Sarthal Devi and Machal in Paddar are the two famous pilgrim centres of Kishtawar. The other less important pilgrim centres are Hud Mata and Trisandhya in Dachchan valley.

Machal Yatra

Machal is about 90 kms from Kishtawar and forms the part of Paddar sub-division of Doda district of which Kishtawar is the tehsil. The Yatra begins from Chunote in Bhaderwah in the month of August and reaches Machal via Kishtawar, Galhar, Shasho, Atholi and Chushoti. Immediately after reaching Machal the yatis try to have the holy Darshan (Sight) of the Goddess Chandi. The Yatis, offer their prayers and perform 'Hawn' etc. According to an estimate about 8000 Machal every year.

Sarthal Devi Yatra

The people of Jammu region in general and Kishtawar in particular have a great faith in Sarthal Devi and the

powers of this goddess. A large number of people take part in a Sarthal Devi Yatra organised every year by Dharmarth Trust some where in the month of July. The Yatra starts with a 'Holi Charri' (a wooden stick) from Gori Shankar Mandir Saskoot and reaches Sarthal in the evening. The temple of Sarthal Devi is about 22 kms by road from Kishtawar but the Yatis can go only up to Kaligarh a distance of about 15 kms by bus. The rest of the journey has to be completed on foot. After reaching the spot in the evening the people stay in the inn and it is only the next day that they have the, "holy Darshan" (The holy Sight) of the 'Mata' -- The mother goddess. The whole day is spent there in form of a fair. Some people perform Mundan (First hair cut) ceremony of their male children.

Hud Mata Yatra is another important Yatra of the region. Starting from Kishtawar it goes to Dachchan covering a distance of about 60 kms. Almost half of the Journey is covered by bus and the rest on foot.

Kailash Yatra

It starts from a very small village called and situated nearly two kms south of Bhaderwah town. Yatra commences in the month of August - September every year. It is believed that Garur wanted to kill Vasuki -- a snake god living at Gatha village and the Vasuki-nag fearing Garur left Gatha to protect himself and reached 'Kailash Parvat' (Kailash range) via *Highyen and Bolaar ki Goochri*. At this sight he sought

the protection of Lord Shiva who after presenting Kailash lake to Vasuki nag left for other mountain range and thus saved Vasuki-nag. It is in this background that the devotees of Vasuki-nag go every year to Kailash lake to organise a fair and offer their prayers to Vasuki-nag. The Journey from Gatha to Kailash takes almost three days and there is no

road transport linking Bhaderwah with this lake situated at about 5000 m above mean sea level.

Apart from these famous Yatras, there are many other religious Yatras that take place every year in different parts of the region. But more details about all of them would require a separate volume and are thus out of the scope of the present work.

REFERENCES

1. Census of India 1981, series 8, Jammu and Kashmir Provisional Population totals. p. 12.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 8.
3. The Author is Thankful his Students Sanjay Kothwal and Ravi Kumar for providing details about the Yatras of Bhaderwah and Kishtawar areas of Jammu region.

IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

The man is face to face with problems of diverse nature and yet these varied problems are so intertwined with each other that it becomes a herculean task to solve them separately. For instance, the problems of population explosion, environmental pollution, shortage of food stuffs, floods, famines etc. are so closely related that they need a collective and simultaneous efforts for their solution by man. Nevertheless, problems of food shortage is perhaps the most immediate and the acute one. This problem has given rise a multitude of other related problems like soil erosion, soil exhaustion, water logging, mechanisation of agriculture, irrigation and the related technological problems etc. etc. Notwithstanding all this, agriculture is the predominant occupation of the people of the world in general and of Asia, and India in particular. Jammu and Kashmir as a State of Union of India is no exception to this rule. The domination of agriculture in the Jammu and Kashmir State can be assessed from the fact that it supports directly or indirectly about 81 per cent of the total population of the State and con-

tributes nearly 60 per cent to the State revenue¹. According to 1981 Census 78.9 per cent of the total population of the state lives in the rural areas. In the case of Jammu region percentage share of rural population increases to 84.54, thereby showing still larger dependence of the population on the agricultural activities. The situation becomes more interesting when we find that the spatial variation in the percentage share of rural population ranges between 70.35 (Jammu) to 94.7 (Rajouri). The districts of Kathua with 88.62 per cent of rural population, Poonch and the Doda districts with corresponding percentage of rural population as 90.46, 93.67 and 94.08 respectively lie between limits set by the Jammu, the lowest, and the Rajouri, the highest. If we take percentage share of rural population as an indicator for the intensity of agricultural activities we can conclude that the Rajouri district of the region has the highest agricultural intensity, followed by the Doda, Poonch, Udhampur, Kathua and the Jammu districts in the descending order. But if we take the percentage share of the cultivators and agricultural labourers to

TABLE 4.1
Classification of Workers and Distribution of Rural and Urban Population

District	Total Population	Total record Population	Total Urban Population	% of Rural BP total Pop.	Total to main Workers	% of main workers of the Total Pop.	Cultivators & Agr. Lab.	% of Cultivators Agr. Labour etc. to the total labour force.
Jammu	943395	663751	279644	70.35	251472	26.65	114922	45.69
Udhampur	453636	410389	43247	90.46	143447	31.62	100459	70.03
Doda	425262	400088	25174	94.08	142360	33.47	111352	78.21
Kathua	369123	327133	41990	88.62	106399	28.82	70373	66.14
Rajouri	302500	286667	15822	94.76	83454	27.58	62244	74.58
Poonch	224197	210026	14171	93.67	62151	27.72	48353	77.79
Total	2718113	2298054	420059	84.54	789283	29.03	507703	64.32

the total labour force of the region we find that a different picture emerges. In this case the Rajouri district with 74.58 per cent (as cultivators and agricultural labourers) of the total labour force occupies the third place against first when only rural population was considered as an indicator of agricultural intensity. The first and second place is occupied by the Doda (78.21) and the Poonch (77.79) districts respectively (table 4.1). The districts of the Udhampur, Kathua and the Jammu with 70.03, 66.14 and 45.69 per cent of the main workers engaged in agriculture are placed at fourth, fifth and sixth place respectively. This, however, does not fully explain the intensity of agriculture at least in the case of Jammu district where low rural population manifests itself, rather in a weak way, both in the total main workers as well as in the cultivators and agricultural labour force. Notwithstanding all this, Jammu district as we shall see later has a capacity to produce result oriented agricultural crops.

If we take land use pattern of the region to see the agricultural scenario still more interesting picture emerges. 36.36 per cent area according to the village papers is reported under the forest cover in 1985-86. Next in importance to the forests, is the net sown area, which forms a little over one fifth of the total reported area (20.80 per cent). Some space is always required for the construction of settlement structures both rural and urban, besides its use for the construction of

roads, laying of the railway lines, establishment of industrial units etc. etc. The use of land for these purposes is significant for both for development of agriculture and other sectors of economy and therefore, must capture a reasonable area of the region. Accordingly, therefore, land put to non-agricultural use includes 13.60 per cent of the total area reported in the village papers. Barren and uncultivable land (10.98%), cultivable waste land (6.63%) are the other areas where a large portion of the region's space is diverted with least or no returns in the economic terms. The pasture and grazing lands play an important role in the village economy and the space used for this purpose is interestingly placed at a low of 4.35 per cent only. Land under miscellaneous tree crops and current fallow land, the two other categories of land yielding economic return respectively occupy 3.29 and 3.68 per cent of the total area of the region. The land which is fallow but other than the current fallow holds only 0.27 per cent of the total area of the region. The cultivable waste land in the region includes 6.63 per cent area (of the region) as a whole (Table 4.2).

A further look at Table 4.2 will show a different picture of land use pattern at the district level. Out of 373 thousand hectares of land under net sown area in the region 29.49 per cent which is quite close to one-third of the total area, is located in the Jammu district alone. No other district is close to this figure. The Udhampur

TABLE 4.2

Land use	Total area of Jammu Region	Jammu	% of total area	Udhampur	% of total area	Doda	% of total area	Kathua	% of total area	Rajouri	% of total area	Poonch	% of total area
Total area according to village papers	1793	320	17.85	429	23.93	411	22.92	266	14.83	253	14.11	114	6.35
Area under Forest	652 (36.36)	40	6.13	192	29.44	219	33.58	73	11.19	94	14.41	34	5.21
Land put to non Agr. uses	244 (13.60)	33	13.52	83	34.01	25	10.24	49	20.08	33	13.52	21	8.60
Barren and uncultivable land	197 (10.98)	52	26.39	26	13.19	44	22.33	30	15.22	40	20.30	05	2.53
Permanent pastures and other grazing land	78 (4.35)	11	14.10	11	14.10	8	10.25	11	14.10	19	24.35	18	23.07
Land under Miscellaneous tree crops etc.	59 (3.29)	01	1.69	19	32.20	25	42.37	13	22.03	1	1.69	neg.	neg.
Cultivable waste Land	119 (6.63)	42	35.29	20	16.80	23	19.32	13	10.92	13	10.92	8	6.72
Fallow land other than current fallow	05 (0.27)	01	20.0	01	20.0	01	20.0	1	20.0	1	20.0	neg.	neg.
Current Fallow	66 (3.68)	30	45.45	12	18.18	6	9.09	13	19.69	4	6.06	1	1.51
Net Sown Area	373 (20.80)	110	29.49	65	17.42	60	16.08	63	16.89	48	12.86	27	7.23

pur district with 17.42 and the Doda with 16.08 per cent areas of the region under net sown area category follow Jammu district but with the obvious difference. Due to their hilly nature, the Rajouri and the Poonch district have very limited absolute area for the agricultural use. The nature has not, therefore, been very kind to the people of these districts and hence only 12.86 per cent and 7.23 per cent areas of the region are contained in these two districts for agricultural use, i.e., the Rajouri and Poonch respectively. Land put to non-agricultural uses in absolute terms is 244 thousand hectares which is 13.60 per cent of the total area according to the village papers. Out of this 34.01 per cent lies in the Udhampur district. The Kathua district with 20.08 per cent occupies second position with regard to areas put to non-agricultural use. The Jammu and Kathua districts with 13.52 per cent each share the third place while Doda (10.24%) and Poonch (8.60%) occupy last two positions. Similarly, the spatial distribution of land under the categories such as barren and uncultivable (10.98%), cultivable waste land (6.63%) is uneven as is evident from the Table 4.2. Uneven spatial distribution is also clear in terms of land put to use under other categories such as permanent pastures, current fallow etc.

PATTERNS OF LAND HOLDINGS

The data in Table 4.3 gives an idea about the land holding pattern that has emerged by 1980-81. It is of special significance to mention here that

land reforms measures were initiated, completed and implemented in the early years of 1950's not only in the Jammu region but in the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir. But it is unfortunate that land reforms in the State as well as in the Jammu region were restricted only to the redistribution of surplus land among the landless such as tenants, cultivators etc. But other attributes of land reforms such as agricultural extension education, supply of modern inputs, development of institutional credit and marketing etc. were not accompanied by the redistribution of land to the tillers. This has influenced the agricultural production and the economic status of the farmer. However, the total number of operational holdings, as per 1980-81 agriculture census, are 1.035 million with 0.99 hectare of area as an average holding size in the state as a whole. As against this the average size of the holding in the Jammu regions is 1.337 hectares. But the average land holding size varies from 1.13 hectares in the Doda district to 1.59 hectares in the Rajouri district thereby giving a range of only 0.46 hectares in the Jammu region. All other districts lie within these two limits. The average land holding in the Jammu district is 1.21 hectares while it is 1.51 in Udhampur and 1.46 in the Poonch district. The Kathua district shows an average holding size of 1.35 hectares.

There seems a preponderance of number of holdings in the lower class of land holding size. In the case of

TABLE 4.3
No. of Holding by size classes and average operational holding

Size/class (ha)	Jammu		Udhampur		Doda		Kathua		Rajouri		Poonch		Total No. of holdings of Jammu region Percentage	
	No. of holding	%	No. of holding	%	No. of holding	%	No. of holding	%	No. of holding	%	No. of holding	% of holding	No. of holdings of Jammu region Percentage	
Below 0.5 ha	45240	35.58	22830	28.82	28905	37.19	27041	39.44	13489	25.72	10760	29.24	148265	33.55
0.5 to 2.0	61078	48.04	36304	45.82	35566	45.76	26512	38.67	25015	47.69	16956	46.08	201431	45.58
2.0 to 5.0	18550	14.60	17193	21.71	12389	15.94	11946	17.43	12266	23.39	7979	21.68	80323	18.18
5.0 to 10.00	1861	1.46	2656	3.36	823	1.07	2775	4.05	1445	2.76	1010	2.76	10574	2.39
10.0 to 30	349	0.27	241	0.29	32	0.04	290	0.41	223	0.42	86	0.23	1221	0.28
30 to 50	43	0.03	nil	nil	nil	nil	3	neg.	5	neg.	nil	nil	51	0.01
50 and above	30	0.02	2	neg	1	neg	nil	nil	11	0.02	1	neg	45	0.01
Total No. of holdings	127151	100%	79226	100	77716	100	68567	100	52454	100	36796	100	441910	100
Total area	152927	-	119724	-	88080	-	92255	-	883256	-	53720	-	590962	-
Average	1.21	-	1.51	-	1.13	-	1.35	-	1.59	-	1.46	-	1.337	-

Source : Computed from the Agriculture Census, 1980-81.

Jammu region 35.58 per cent land holdings possess less than 0.5 hectare of land while another 48.04 per cent land holders control land between 0.5 to 2.0 hectare while the corresponding percentage for 2.0 to 5.0 hectare size is 14.60. This, therefore, means that 98.22 per cent land holder possess less than 5 hectares of land and out of this 83.62 per cent maintain a land holding less than 2.0 hectares. It is only 1.78 per cent holdings that manage land more than the size of 5.0 hectares. The situations in other districts of the region is no different. In the Udhampur district 96.35 per cent land holders possess less than 5 hectares out of which 45.35 per cent maintain land between 0.5 to 2.0 hectares. The corresponding percentages for the Doda district are 98.89 and 45.76, for Kathua it is 95.54 and 38.67, for Rajouri 96.80 and 47.69 and for the Poonch district 97.0 and 46.08 per cent. However, in the Rajouri district number of land holders in the less than 0.5 hectare class is comparatively the lowest being only 25.72 per cent while it is highest in the Kathua district (39.44%). This is against 45.68 per cent of the state's average and 33.55 per cent average of the region. If we look at the region as a whole we find a similar situation emerges with 97.31 per cent holdings having less than 5 hectares of land out of which 33.55 per cent control less than 0.5 hectare while 45.58 per cent are placed in the size class of 0.5 to 2.0 hectares and remaining 18.18 per cent have land between 2 to 5 hectares. It is only 2.69 per cent holdings that handle the land

above the size class of 5 hectares even out of this 1.27 per cent maintain land between 5.0 to 10.0 hectares.

What is the role of small and marginal holdings in the process of agricultural production is an important question that needs answer. "The preponderance of small and marginal holdings raises one fundamental issue of relationship between the size of holding and efficiency of farming."² The bigger form can surely influence the economies of scale while a marginal farmer would have to be a subsistence farmer. From the land holding patterns that they have emerged in the foregoing lines, positively indicates towards the exceeding number of farmers practising subsistence farming in the Jammu region. This fact would be perhaps be substantiated by the following pages dealing with the cropping patterns.

CROPPING PATTERNS

Gunnar Myrdal's studies of Asian countries is nothing less than monumental work. The study concludes : "It is in the agricultural sector that the battle for long-term economic development in south Asia will be won or lost."³ And if we see the history of industrial development in the world we can early conclude that agricultural development is by far the most important factor in the overall development of industrial sector. The industrial take off periods of "France, Belgium, Germany and Sweden also rested upon a firm base of rising agricultural productivity." Similarly, the

role played by agriculture in the economic development of Russia, China and Japan is of basic nature. The demand for new industrial goods is created by the agricultural sector. Agricultural development has a major role to play in improving the per capital farm income. All these factors point to a single direction where the importance of agriculture is far more significant in India in general and Jammu and Kashmir State in particular where industrial development has yet to pick up.

The cropping pattern which has normally been defined as the proportion of area under various crops at a point of time plays a major role in the agricultural production. Since the area under different crops always changes, depending upon various agri-climatic and managerial factors, therefore, cropping pattern can not be a static concept. It is, therefore, a dynamic one whose dynamism is reflected both in time and space. The cropping patterns of any region depends upon different climatic, adaptive, geomorphic and socio-economic conditions.

The State of Jammu and Kashmir enjoys from tropical and sub-tropical to temperate and even alpine type of climates with differing soil types and geomorphic conditions thereby initiating a significantly different cropping patterns and crop-combinations at various levels. The mountains, valleys and other geomorphological factors influence the climate at micro level

which in turn effect, modifications in the cropping patterns. The monsoon winds which more or less fail to cross Pir Panjal ranges to give rainfall in Kashmir Valley are fairly active in the Jammu region thereby affecting the cropping pattern. Again the entire outer plain region of the state along-with areas lying at comparatively lower altitudes do not receive snow-fall and yet adequate winter rains help the farmer to cultivate the wheat crop even in the non-irrigated area with almost good results.

When we talk about the cropping patterns in the Jammu region it becomes interesting to note that 88.75 per cent of the total cropped area is occupied by the three major cereal crops of wheat, maize and rice in the order of their importance in respect of the areas they are cultivated over. Wheat with 38.06 per cent area of the gross cropped area of the region is singularly important. Maize which is cultivated in most of unirrigated areas covers 32.14 per cent of the gross cropped area. Cultivation of rice and its consumption though important in the region is restricted only in the irrigated patches of land in the region. Irrigation being the major restricting factor, therefore, limits its area of cultivation to only 18.56 per cent of the gross cultivated area of the region. Another 5.58 per cent area is together occupied by pulses, fruits and vegetables. This, means that a little over 94 per cent of the gross cropped area is occupied by wheat, maize, rice, pulses and vegetable and fruit crops.

This leaves less than 6 per cent area for other crops such as jowar, bajra, barley, sugarcane etc. The insignificance of these crops in cropping patterns of the region can be gauged by the extent of area they are cultivated.

The district-wise analysis of the data pertaining to the area under different crops reveals yet another pattern in the region. Rice and wheat are the dominant crops of Jammu districts. Of the total area under rice in the region nearly 49 per cent area lies in Jammu district alone followed by Kathua district (25.69). Both these districts together account for nearly three-fourth of the total area under the crop leaving only about 25 per cent area spread over other districts, viz., the Udhampur (11.61%), Rajouri (6.10%), Poonch (3.86%), and the Doda (3.76%). Almost an identical pattern of wheat cultivation in the region is discernable. The Jammu and the Kathua districts while dominating in the wheat cultivation too, together occupy about 64 per cent area under this crop in the region. As a consequence of this nearly 36 per cent area under wheat is again unevenly divided among the remaining four districts, viz., Udhampur (15.85%), Rajouri (13.04%), Poonch (4.27%) and the Doda (3.76%). A different cropping pattern appears on the space of Jammu region in the case of maize cultivation. The high concentration of maize cultivation is witnessed in the Udhampur, Doda and the Rajouri districts. About 70 per cent of the total area under maize cultivation is concentrated in these three dis-

tricts with varying degree (Table 4.4). The Poonch districts which accounts for 12.25 per cent of the total area under maize in the region also occupies a respectable position in the maize cultivation. In fact, agro-climatic, geomorphic and even socio-economic conditions are congenial for the cultivation of maize in hilly districts of the Doda, Rajouri, Poonch and Udhampur. The Jammu and the Kathua districts which are outstanding in respect of rice and wheat cultivation are not important maize producing areas of the region. The Jammu and Kathua again dominate the areas under the cultivation of pulses. These two districts together occupy about 68 per cent of the total area under the cultivation of pulses in 1985-86. Other important districts are Kathua (9.51%), Udhampur (7.87%), Rajouri (3.28%) and the Poonch (2.95%).

If we look at Table 4.4 it will reveal to us that out of the gross cropped area of 571.72 thousand hectare 539.44 thousand hectare of 94.35 per cent is under the cultivation of rice, wheat, maize, pulses and fruits and vegetables. Consequently only 5.65 per cent of gross cropped area is available for the cultivation of all other crops.

Average Yield of Crops: In the foregoing discussion we have observed that there are only three important foodgrains crops, viz., wheat, maize and rice in the Jammu region. The production of agricultural crops depends on the yield obtained in per unit of area of any region.

TABLE 4.4
Area in 000 Hectare - 1985-86

Areas under Major Crops - Total cropped Area of the Region is 571.72 thousand Hectares.

<i>District</i>	<i>Rice</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Maize</i>	<i>Pulses</i>	<i>Fruits & Vegetable</i>
Jammu	51.97	94.39	14.97	13.23	1.79
-	48.98%	43.39%	8.14%	45.66%	58.68%
Udhampur	12.32	34.49	46.93	4.81	0.24
-	11.61%	15.85%	25.54%	16.60%	7.87%
Doda	3.99	6.63	42.52	3.21	0.54
-	3.76%	3.05%	23.14%	11.10%	17.71%
Kathua	27.26	44.39	17.87	6.45	0.29
-	25.69%	20.40%	9.73%	22.26%	9.51%
Rajouri	6.47	28.38	38.95	1.09	0.10
-	6.10%	13.04%	21.20%	3.76%	3.28%
Poonch	4.09	9.29	22.51	0.18	0.09
-	3.86%	4.27%	12.25%	0.62%	2.95%
Total	106.1	217.57	183.75	28.97	3.05
-	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Nevertheless, the yield itself depends on different factors of production. A wide fluctuations have been recorded in the average yield of major foodgrain crops in the region over the years. A cursory glance at Table 4.5 will show these fluctuations very vividly. The analysis of the data in this Table 4.5 shows that the average yield of rice in the Jammu region lies between 12 quintals per hectare in 1979-80 to 14.93 quintals per hectare in 1985-86 which also remains the year of highest per hectare average yield of the rice in Jammu region. Thus the net increase in average per hectare yield from 1979-80 to 1985-86 by 2.93 quintals does not seem so impressive. This fact assumes greater significance when we find that the increase in per hectare yield has not been consistent. It has been fluctuating. For instance, average yield of rice fell from 13.56 quintals per hectare in 1980-81 to 13.02 quintals in 1981-82 which was further reduced to 12.35 quintals in the following year only to pickup again to 13.19 quintals per hectare in 1983-84. However, there seems a consistent but marginal increase in the average per hectare yield thereafter ending up with 14.93 quintals per hectare in 1985-86.

Unlike rice, wheat is not a crop which receives irrigational facilities every where it is cultivated and hence as mentioned earlier depends largely by the winter rains. It is, perhaps due to this fact that we see more pronounced fluctuations in the average per hectare yield of wheat crop in the Jammu region. The failure of cyclonic

storms to give adequate rainfall in the Jammu region seems to have effected the per hectare yield of the crop particularly during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85. The year 1984-85 has received the lowest per hectare average yield of 7.50 quintals, whereas, it was slightly higher in previous year when it was 8.43 quintals per hectare. Notwithstanding all this, there has been consistent but marginal increase in the per hectare yield of wheat from 1979-80 to 1982-83 with the exception of the year 1981-82. In the 1981-82 average per hectare yield wheat was placed at 10.33 quintals, whereas, it was 10.44 quintals in the previous year. However, there seems a spectacular and sudden increase in the average per hectare yield in the year 1985-86 over the year 1984-85 when it jumped from 7.50 quintals the lowest to 12.28 quintals, the highest per hectare yield. This is the highest throughout the period under report.

The case of maize is no different either from rice or wheat. It is rather interesting to note that the per hectare average yield of maize in the Jammu region almost increased and decreased alternatively. It jumped from 16.66 quintals in 1979-80 to 21.32 quintals in 1980-81 only to get reduced to 20.47 quintals in the following year. It was further reduced to 17.20 quintals per hectare in 1982-83 from where it increased to 20.08 quintals per hectare in 1983-84. In the year 1984-85 it again fell down to 19.53 only to increase to 20.01 quintals per hectare in the following year of 1985-86. How-

ever, the per hectare highest yield in maize remains 1980-81 (21.32 quintal) and of the lowest yield was in 1979-80 (16.66 quintal).

Horticulture: The State of Jammu and Kashmir is known for its juicy and savoury fruits from yore times. The natural environments, ecological and agro-climatic conditions individually support and contribute to the growth of fruit crops. The fruit culture in the State remained sporadic and unorganised for quite long times for want of market which the growers remained unable to discover in the face of highly underdeveloped road transport infrastructure. The development of roads facilitated and frequented the road transport which in turn made it possible to carry the fruits outside the state to receive better returns for fruit cultivation in terms of money per unit of area. This single factor can be held responsible for a change from unorganised groves to scientifically laid, very wellplanned and efficiently managed orchards. Latitudinal extent and altitudinal variations have erected different agro-climatic and ecological conditions which in turn diversify the fruit culture from drupe and nuts in the Kashmir valley to citrus fruits, mango, litchi, guava, ber, papaya, peach etc. in the Jammu region.

However, due to the factors mentioned earlier, it is interesting to note that "During the preplan period the cultivation and production of fruits remained restricted to 12,000 hectares

and 16,000 metric tonnes... the production of fruit registered spectacular increase plan after plan. With the active participation of the farmers/orchardists and the required technical expertise with the due attention of the Government, the level of achievements in respect of area and production has increased many fold. Ending sixth plan the area raised to 1.45 lakhs hectares while the production reached to 6.73 lakh metric tonnes.⁵" Further "In order to provide an idea of the development in the two divisions of the State the area under production of the fruit ending fifth-sixth and the first-two years of the seventh plan has been as 81,000 hectares in Kashmir, 22,000 hectares in Jammu 1.07 lakh hectare in Kashmir, 38,000 hectares in Kashmir and 48,000 hectares in Jammu division, respectively."⁶ Thus the considerable areas under fruit cultivation must generals such fiscal situations which may attain the importance of becoming the backbone of the state's economy. This fact is supported by the substantial increase in the total production of fruit from 1.56 lakh metric tonnes in 1971-72 to 8 lakh metric tonnes in 1986-87.

For the efficient management of this vast fruit industing a separate directorate of Horticulture, Planning and Marketing was created in 1971-72. This department assumed the responsibility of finding suitable market for the fresh fruits of the state throughout the country. Besides, the department has tried and found suitable market for

fruits like walnut in about twenty countries of the world. This has resulted in earning a foreign exchange of nearly ten crores of rupees every year for the state and the country. At the same time this directorate of horticulture is doing a commendable job of pushing the fresh fruits in different but important market within the country. Needless to mention that before coming into being of this department, the growers of the fruits were at mercy of private traders who exploited them. It is due to the efforts of this department that co-operative societies look after the export and marketing of the fruit crop. The importance of the co-operative societies can be gauged from the fact that their number increased from mere two in 1972-73 to 147 in 1986-87.

The horticulture department is also undertaking the task of educating the fruit growers in the latest techniques of picking, packing and grading on the scientific lines. Besides all this department takes care of popularising the fruits of the state in the home market, provides extension service to educate the growers on the latest varieties of

fruits, prices and terminal markets etc.

The activities in the field of horticulture in the Jammu region are comparatively less important. Nonetheless there has been a gradual increase in these activities over different plan periods. In the sixth plan period the area under horticulture was 26.20 per cent of the total area of the state as compared to 21.36 during the first-two years of the 7th plan data for which is available. Nevertheless, this gradual increase is indicative of a bright future of horticulture in the region in the years to come. Although agro-climatic conditions for the cultivation of different varieties of fruits are almost similar in most of the Doda, Udhampur, Poonch and even in the Kathua and Rajouri districts of the Jammu region yet it seems that neither the agriculture, horticulture or the planning agencies of the state government paid any meaningful attention to exploit these and bring more area under fruit culture. The extensive areas of Bhaderwah, Kishtawar, Ramban, Gandoh, Banihal of the Doda district and the higher reaches of Udhampur district such as Gool Gulabgarh, Ramnagar and Panchari etc. are as good for the cultivation of apple, pears, walnut, and apricot etc. as the areas of the Kashmir

TABLE 4.5

Availability and Distribution of Fruit Plants in Jammu Region

Year	Plans available	Number of plants (Lakhs)	
		Plants distributed	%
		2.58	39.57
1980-81	6.52	2.73	48.92
1981-82	5.58	2.63	36.32
1982-83	7.24	3.04	69.59
1983-84	4.37	3.04	62.04
1984-85	4.90	3.21	47.9
1985-86	6.70		

Valley are. There, is, therefore, a great scope for the extension of horticulture in the Jammu region.

Notwithstanding all this Jammu region grows sub-tropical fruits like mangoes, oranges, guava, papaya, lemon, plum, grapes, maltas and ber etc. etc. Besides, there are orchards of apple and other fruits of the temperate climates in the districts of Doda, Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua and Udhampur of course in parts. Most of these orchards are found between an altitude of 1800 in and 2700 metres. Although the data regarding the area under orchards or the production and marketing of fruit are not available for meaningful geographical interpretations yet the data regarding the availability and the distribution of fruit plants by the directorate of horticulture should throw a light on its activities.

A cursory glance at Table 4.5 reveals that except for the year 1982-83 there has been a gradual but marginal increase in the distribution of fruit plants over the years. On the other hand the availability of the fruits plants have been fluctuating with any definite trend and these fluctuations have obviously affected the percentage of the distribution of plants. The consistency in the low percentage of plants distributed over the plants available throws some light on the efficiency with which the various agencies involved in the process have been acting. There seems a lot of scope for the improvement here.

IRRIGATION

For enhancing the productivity of land irrigation happens to be the most important cultural energy input. Irrigation can increase the effective size of the land. In the area where annual rainfall is scanty, the agriculture becomes uncertain and risky economic activity. Irrigational facilities in such like situations not only removes the risk involved but also increases the gross cropped area. The agriculture in many parts of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and U.P. would not have been possible without the irrigational facilities. Irrigation makes it easy for the farmer to grow the crops which give him maximum economic return which otherwise is not possible when he has to depend on the monsoon. Thus irrigation removes the restrictions imposed by nature on the agricultural activities. For instance, it would not have been possible for a Punjabi or a Maharashtrian farmer to cultivate a cash crop like sugarcane without the irrigational facilities. Irrigation also increases the land use intensity by allowing the farmer to cultivate more than one crop in same unit of area. Irrigation enhances the productive capacity of the land and encourages the farmer to go in for certain agricultural inputs by assuring him of better economic returns. The modern agricultural technology finds acceptance more easily in the areas of ensured irrigation. Irrigation, therefore, can be taken as a catalytic agent for effecting a change in the agricultural sector.

The Jammu region which enjoys, as mentioned earlier, sub-tropical to temperate and even alpine type of climate but with extremely uncertain and unreliable monsoon rains. Besides, the sub-tropical high summer temperatures make it necessary for the farmers to irrigate their fields to get the minimum desired agricultural production. Nevertheless, the irrigation cannot be a universal phenomenon over the entire area. It needs certain infrastructural facilities to take the water to the fields which not only involves economic investment but the availability of water from any source becomes an important precondition for the purpose. The consciousness of the farmers about the importance of irrigation coupled with the will of the government to increase the food production resulted in the development and construction of certain canals and erection of tube-wells in the region to increase the area under irrigation. Despite all these efforts there exists a very high degree of disparity between Kashmir and the Jammu region in respect of area irrigated. The Statistical data regarding the total area sown and the net area irrigated in both these regions reveals that while in the Kashmir region, beyond the Pir Panjal, 63.62 per cent of the total cropped area was irrigated, it was only 15.57 per cent cropped area of Jammu region which received this facility in 1985-86. The reason for this disparity is not very difficult to visualise. Kashmir valley is a plain stretch of land with abundant water available in the

numerous perennial streams, lakes and above all river Jhelum, facilitating, thereby, the extension of irrigational facilities. On the other hand large portion of cropped area in the Jammu region is placed in the hilly areas, where canal irrigation is not so easy a task. The 'Kulls' constructed by the irrigation department can play only a limited role in a hilly topography. Nonetheless the plain areas of Jammu region where water resource is available substantial area has been brought under irrigation. However, Table 4.6 gives the statistical insight into the area and source of irrigation in the Jammu region.

An analysis of the Table 4.6 shows predominance of canals as a source of irrigation in the Jammu region with 76.97 per cent irrigated area under its influence. However, in the Rajouri district sources other than canals occupy an important place in providing the irrigation to the fields. Almost similar situation is obvious in Doda district as well. Kuls can be considered as an important component of the category of 'other source' of irrigation. These kuls are constructed and maintained by the irrigation department particularly in the hilly areas of the region to harness the water flowing in the perennial streams. According to the information gathered from the irrigation department, the construction of a kul can be undertaken subject to the availability of funds, if the area for irrigation is available is not less than 4 hectare. a kul, therefore, normally irrigates an

TABLE 4.6

Net Area Irrigated from Different Source. In Jammu Region 1985-86

Area: 000 ha.

District	Net Area Irrigated By							Total irrigated Area	%
	Canals	% of the total irrigated Area	Tanks	% of the total irrigated Area	Wells & Tube Wells	% of the total irrigated Area	Other sources		
Jammu	49.09	95.72	-	-	1.71	3.34	0.48	51.28	100
Udhampur	6.68	84.88	-	-	-	-	1.19	7.87	100
Doda	3.75	52.52	0.01	0.14	0.01	0.14	3.37	7.14	100
Kathua	12.24	75.60	-	-	0.32	1.98	3.63	16.19	100
Rajouri	1.79	38.83	-	-	neg.	-	2.82	4.61	100
Poonch	3.42	85.93	0.08	2.01	-	-	0.48	3.98	100
Total	76.97	84.52	0.09	0.098	2.04	2.24	11.97	91.07	100%

area ranging between 4 to 200 hectares. Kul irrigation is, therefore, important source of irrigation in the hilly areas of the Rajouri, Doda and the Kathua districts. In the Udhampur and the Poonch district kul irrigation is not that important and yet 15.12 and 12.06 per cent of their net irrigated areas respectively find source in the kul irrigation which from any reckoning is not a mean percentage. In the Jammu district kul irrigation is very insignificant (0.94 per cent).

The intensity of canal irrigation is the highest throughout the region with the exception of the Rajouri district where the source (Kul) dominate the scene. There seems an overwhelming dominance of canal irrigation in the Jammu, Udhampur and the Poonch districts with 95.72, 84.88 and 85.93 per cent of the total irrigated area respectively is irrigated by canals. The position of the Kathua with 75.60 and Doda with 52.52 per cent areas under canal irrigation itself speaks about the importance of canal irrigation in these districts as well. Well irrigation although insignificant throughout the region yet it irrigates 1.71 thousand hectares in the Kathua district and 0.32 thousand hectares in the Kathua district. Tank irrigation is rather more insignificant than the well irrigation in the region. It is only in the Poonch and Doda districts that it irrigates areas not more than 0.08 and 0.01 thousand hectares respectively which from only 2.01 and 0.04 per cent of the total irrigated areas of these districts. In the context of the region as a whole

well and the tanks are responsible for irrigating 2.24, 0.09 per cent of the total irrigated areas.

The rice crop which is one of the major cereal crop of the region is cultivated over a little more than 53 per cent of the total irrigated area of the Jammu region with wide spatial varieties (Table 4.8). Analysis of this Table 4.7 shows that the Udhampur district spares maximum of its irrigated area (85.71%) for the cultivation of rice followed by Rajouri (83.33%) and Poonch (66.66%). In the Udhampur district the only other crop devoted to the irrigated areas is the wheat which occupies the 14.29 per cent of the irrigated areas of the district, the remaining 85.71% is devoted to rice cultivation. In the Poonch district, however, irrigated areas are devoted to wheat (16.66%) and other non-food crops (16.66%) and 66.66 per cent areas are devoted to the cultivation of rice crop, while in the Rajouri districts only rice and other non-food crops occupy the entire irrigated area of the district. In the Jammu district irrigated areas are fairly well distributed under different crops depending upon their relative importance in the region. The rice with 47.91 per cent of the total irrigated areas is followed by wheat covering another 38.54 per cent of the irrigated areas of the district. Maize crop which generally depends upon the monsoon rains for the required moisture covers as little as 1.04 per cent of the irrigated areas. Similarly other cereals, and food crops with non-food

TABLE 4.7

Crops Irrigated - 1985-86.

Area Irrigated (Lakh hectares)

District	Rice	%	Maize	%	Wheat	%	Other cereals, pulses and Millets	%	Other Food crops	%	Other non-food crops	%	Total Area
Jammu	0.46	47.91	0.01	1.04	0.37	38.54	0.01	1.04	0.02	2.08	0.09	9.37	0.96
Udhampur	0.06	85.71	neg.	-	0.01	14.29	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07
Doda	0.04	50.0	0.02	25	-	-	0.01	12.5	0.01	12.5	-	-	0.08
Kathua	0.16	55.17	-	-	0.09	31.03	-	-	-	-	0.04	13.79	0.29
Rajouri	0.05	83.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	16.66	0.06
Poonch	0.04	66.66	-	-	0.01	16.66	-	-	-	-	0.01	16.66	0.06
Total	0.81	53.29	0.03	1.97	0.48	31.58	0.02	1.31	0.03	1.97	0.15	9.87	1.52

crops occupy insignificant of the irrigated areas of the district, ranging, however, between 0.04 per cent in case of pulses and millets and 9.37 per cent in case of other non-food crops. The Kathua district whose considerable area lies in the outer plain region of the state devotes more than 55 per cent of its irrigated area to the cultivation of rice and about 30 per cent of it to the cultivation wheat and the remaining irrigated area is devoted to the other non-food crops. Even the Doda district which is hilly in nature devotes 50 per cent of its total irrigated area to the cultivation of rice crop and the remaining 50 per cent distributed among the maize (25%) pulses (12.5%) and other food crops (12.5%).

Since rice is a water demanding crop, therefore, most of the irrigated areas of the region are devoted to the cultivation of this crop. Maize is almost entirely dependent upon the monsoon rain in the region. Wheat, however, is a crop which is grown both in the irrigated tract as well as non-irrigated kandi (dry) areas of the Siwaliks and middle mountains depending to a considerable extent on the cyclonic disturbances originating in the mediterranean region and giving extensive precipitation over the entire region. Irrigation of wheat crop even in the irrigated areas of the region is not as intensive as it is with other regions of the country, mainly because of these winter rains which fail, if at all, very infrequently. However, rice and wheat together account

for nearly 85 per cent of the total irrigated areas leaving thereby only 15 per cent irrigated areas for all other crops in the region.

It will, however, not be out of place to mention a few of the important canals of the region which irrigate nearly 77 per cent of the total cropped area. The region is irrigated by various rivers and streams such as the Ravi in the east and Chenab in the west. In between these two major rivers many tributaries of either of them flow. The important ones are the Tawi, the Manawar Tawi, the Ujh, Basantar, the Neeru and an important stream which joins river Chenab at Doda while Poonch is a stream which drains through the Poonch districts and joins the Jhelum river across the line of actual control. Most of these streams particularly the Ujh, the Basantar, the Tawi the Munawar Tawi do not have enough water except in the rainy season. However, it is the water of these rivers and streams which is diverted to the fields for irrigation through some of canals described as follows.

The Ranbir Canal

The canal derives its name after the Maharaja Ranbir Singh who was instrumental in the construction of this canal. The canal takes its waters off the Chenab river at Akhnoor a Tehsil headquarters of district Jammu, lying about 32 km west of Jammu city. It is here at Akhnoor that the river Chenab debouches into the plains and moves into the territories of Pakistan after crossing the international border a few

kms down from Akhnoor the Ranbir canal takes the water off the left bank of the river and after moving in a southward direction its waters are taken across the Tawi river through an aquaduct to irrigate the areas of Bishnah, Ranbir Singh Pura and Jammu tehsils of the Jammu Districts. Nevertheless some are of Akhnoor Tehsil are also irrigated by this canal. The Basmati throughout the country are the gift of Ranbir Canal besides helping the farmers to introduce high yielding varieties of seed and other techniques.

The Pratap Canal

This is another important canal which takes its water of the right Bank of river Chenab to Akhnoor. The Canal is named after Maharaja Paratap Singh. It is nearly 36 km. long and is designed to irrigate about 8100 hectares of land in the Akhnoor tehsil. The areas irrigated by the Pratap Canal are important growers of rice, wheat and vegetables etc. The Canal responsible for enhancing the land and increasing the intensity of agriculture.

The Ravi - Tawi Irrigation Complex

In order to harness the waters of the rivers Ravi and the Tawi a comprehensive plan is drawn to connect the water of these two rivers. The cost of the project is nearly one hundred crores and will be able to irrigate about 61,000 hectares of land spread over the districts of Jammu and Kathua the entire plain area along the Siwalik foot hills is destined to benefit from the

project. The project is a combination of gravity canal and lift irrigation project. The Ravi Canal which takes its water from river Ravi at Shahpur-Kandi Barrage is connected with the Tawi Lift Irrigation Project at Vijaypur. On the other hand waters of river Tawi are lifted from its left bank near Bahu Fort just opposite to the walled city of Jammu. The main Ravi Canal moves in a North-East to South-West direction for about 76 km to be connected with the Tawi lift scheme Canal which runs only about 29 km up to Ramgarh from its source near Bahu Fort at Jammu. The main Canal of the Tawi Lift irrigation project irrigates about 6000 hectare of land of Jammu, Bishnah and Vijaypur Blocks Jammu district. The project is likely to change the very face of agriculture in the entire outer plain region of the Jammu Province. The farmer will be able to use the high yielding varieties of seed, the chemical fertilizers and other modern technique useful for increasing the agricultural production. The project is, therefore, important for initiating the development activities. The farmer who used to be the slave of nature is now the master of insofar as its agricultural pursuits are concerned and is able to diversify his agriculture which is now on the anvil.

Besides the above mentioned important canals and irrigation projects a number of tubewells have been erected in the outer plains of the region to harness the underground water of irrigational purposes. These

tubewells irrigate an area of about 2100 hectare in the outer plain areas of the Jammu region.

Animal Husbandry: The economic significance of livestock in a country like India needs no over-emphasis. It influence the rural economic life in more than one way. Despite the mechanization of agriculture in some pocket of the country livestock is used for different agricultural operations be it ploughing the fields, lifting the water from wells etc. for irrigation or thrashing and transporting the use of animal is widespread. The animals increase the income of the ruralities by providing milk, meat and other animal products such as skins, bones, wool and even manures. The farm yard manures assume a great significance in the agricultural operations throughout the country. Animals also provide employment opportunities to the rural people, for animal rearing involves a lot a labour. Animals provide raw material for a number of industries based on animals products be it a dairy industry leather or woolen Textiles. It is perhaps due to these facts that the National Commission on Agriculture opined : "A very large proportion of the female labour force finds scope for fuller utilization in several operations connected with cattle and buffalo rearing."⁸

The State of Jammu and Kashmir is no different from rest of the country in its economic pursuits of cattle rearing. In fact, a variety of climatic conditions due to altitudinal and lati-

tudinal variation have created certain peculiar conditions for animal culture. For example, the alpine pastures and dieting habits of the people irrespective of caste or religion, requiring more meat than is usually consumed in rest of the country, creates a favourable situations for rearing meat and milk cattle. Nevertheless, the cattle rearing also forms an integral part of agriculture which is major occupation of the people of the region.

Another peculiarity in respect to the cattle rearing in the States as well as in the Jammu region which can easily be recognised and which perhaps differs from many parts of the country is the presence of different communities specialising in rearing a particular species of animals. For example, the Gujjar community would rear only the milk cattle giving preference to buffaloes over cows while the Bakkarwal Community, as the name suggests, is engaged in rearing only the meat and wool yielding animals like goat and the sheep since a large section of both these communities are nomadic in their character, they are, therefore, constrained to keep horses and ponies for carrying their load to the alpine pastures in the summers and back to the plains in the winters. It can, therefore, be concluded that a variety of the cattle species are reared in the state in general and the Jammu region in particular important among them as listed in the discussion preceeding these lines are sheep goat, buffalo, horse, pony etc.

TABLE 4.8

Livestock Population

Numbers of Animals in lakhs.

Numbers of Animals in Lakhs.															
District	Cattle			Buffaloes			Sheep			Goats			Horses & Ponies		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Jammu	2.893	24.47	8.58	1.770	33.72	5.25	0.363	4.30	1.08	1.257	16.8	3.73	0.089	19.39	0.26
Udhampur	2.567	21.71	7.61	1.025	19.53	3.04	1.813	21.45	5.38	1.718	22.96	5.10	0.093	20.26	0.28
Doda	2.476	20.93	7.35	0.309	5.89	0.92	2.169	25.73	6.43	0.910	12.16	2.70	0.091	19.83	0.27
Kathua	1.964	16.61	5.84	0.676	12.88	2.0	1.518	18.00	4.50	1.305	17.45	3.87	0.062	13.51	0.18
Rajouri	1.267	10.71	3.76	0.890	16.96	2.64	0.782	9.28	2.32	0.864	11.55	2.56	0.063	13.73	0.19
Poonch	0.665	5.54	1.94	0.579	11.03	1.72	1.789	21.22	5.31	1.428	19.10	4.24	0.061	13.29	0.18
Total	11.822	100.00	35.08	5.249	100.00	15.57	8.434	100.00	25.03	7.482	100.00	22.20	0.459	100.00	1.36
B) Distt.															
	Donkeys			Mules			Camels			Pigs			Total A+B		% A+B
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3			
Jammu	0.032	59.26	0.09	0.019	14.28	0.06	0.025	75.76	0.07	0.023	88.46	0.07	6.471	19.20	
Udhampur	0.001	1.86	0.002	0.029	21.80	0.08	0.001	3.03	0.002	0.001	3.85	0.002	7.248	21.51	
Doda	0.012	22.22	0.03	0.025	18.80	0.07	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.992	17.78	
Kathua	0.008	14.81	0.02	0.025	18.80	0.07	0.007	21.21	0.02	0.002	7.69	0.005	5.67	16.52	
Rajouri	0.001	1.86	0.002	0.019	14.29	0.06	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.886	11.53	
Poonch	neg.	-	-	0.016	12.03	0.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.528	13.43	
Total	0.054	100.00	0.144	0.133	100.00	0.38	0.033	100.00	0.092	0.026	100.00	0.77	33.692	100.00	

Source Digest of Statistics J & K 1986 (Computed from)

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1. Population in absolute numbers in lakhs.
2. Per cent of the total population of the species in the region.
3. Per cent of the total livestock population of the region.

An analysis of the data of Table 4.8 shows that there are 11.822 lakh cattle in the region, i.e., the cows, oxen and bulls which form 35.08 per cent of the livestock population of the region. There seems a wide variation in the distribution of cattle population within the region. Nearly 25 per cent of 11.82 lakh population is concentrated in the Jammu districts followed by Udhampur with about 22 per cent and the Doda district with 21 per cent. The Kathua district contains a respectable figure of 16.61 per cent of the total population of cattle in the region while the Rajouri and the Poonch districts respectively accommodate 10.71 and 5.45 per cent of the cattle population of the region.

Buffalo is another important component of livestock wealth of the region. Buffalo is the major source of milk production in the entire region. The Gujjar population oscillates between high altitudes pastures in the summer and the plain region in the winter along with their entire livestock population of which buffaloes are the most important and the largest single component, the buffaloes constitute 15.57 per cent of the total livestock population of the region which like cattle population has wide spatial variations over the region. A little over one third of 5.249 lakh buffalo population of the region is accommodated in the Jammu district alone. The Kathua district with 19.53 per cent buffalo population is followed by the Rajouri (16.96), Kathua (12.88%) and the Poonch (11.03%), unsuitable

climatic conditions for rearing buffaloes in the Doda district are reflected by the low population of only 5.84 per cent of the total buffalo population of the region. The rigorous climate of the Doda district with very low winter temperatures are hard for buffaloes to endure but entire pasture lands of the district is full of buffaloes during the summer season with their rearers--the Gujjars--the nomads.

Further examination of Table 4.8 divulges the interesting features of sheep population. The sheep population of the region exceeds the buffalo population 8.434 lakh in absolute terms. The Udhampur, Doda and the Poonch districts together account for more than 68 per cent of the total sheep population in the region. The Kathua is the only other district which holds a respectable share of sheep population (18.0%). The Rajouri (9.28%) and Jammu (4.30%) no doubt hold comparatively fewer number of sheep, nevertheless, they are not important insofar as overall livestock population is concerned. Notwithstanding all this the sheep contributes more than twenty-five per cent to the total livestock population of the region -- a fact that augments the status of sheep in the overall livestock wealth of the region.

The goat is main source of meat in the state. The environmental conditions have squarely influenced dietary habits of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in which meat finds a prominent place. The position of goat in the

livestock wealth of the region, therefore, assumes greater significance. Nevertheless, the goat grazing, in a hilly state like Jammu and Kashmir, is considered as a negative factor for the health of the forest wealth. And in fact goat is singularly responsible for degrading large forest areas of the state in general and Jammu region in particular.

The appreciation of the Table 4.8 will show that the number of goat according to 1982 animal census stands at 7.482 lakh which is 22.20 per cent of the total livestock population of the region. The goat population is comparatively evenly distributed over the space of the region. However, the Udhampur district accommodate the largest number which when expressed in percentage stands at 22.96 per cent. After Udhampur, the Poonch district holds 19.10 per cent of the goat population followed by Kathua (17.45%), Jammu (16.8%) and the Doda district (12.16%). Rajouri district which still accommodate more than one tenth (11.55%) of the total population of the goat in the region. As compared to it the Jammu district which enjoys similar position in respect of sheep population contains only 4.3 per cent of sheep in the region.

Thus we see that buffalo, sheep and goat population together account for 97.88 per cent of total livestock population in the Jammu region thereby making the position of other animals like horses, donkeys, mules, camels, and pigs statistically very weak. How-

ever, the importance of horses and ponies for Gujjars in particular is more than significant due to obvious reasons. Horses and ponies with 0.459 lakh in absolute numbers form a 1.36 per cent of the livestock population. The corresponding figures for donkey and mules respectively are 0.054 and 0.144 per cent and 0.133 and 0.38 per cent. The camel in the Jammu region is reared only in the Jammu, Udhampur and Kathua districts with as less a population as 0.033 lakh which forms only 0.092 per cent of the total livestock population. The concentration of the pigs is pre-eminently conspicuous in the Jammu district which hold not less 88 per cent of the total population of pigs in the region. The remaining twelve per cent are found in the Kathua (7.69%) and the Udhampur (3.855%).

Since the role of the livestock wealth in the rural economy is pre-eminent, therefore, there is a pressing need for the improvement in the quality of the animals. "For this purpose, the important steps as stated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are 1. Better breeding, 2. Weeding, 3. Feeding, 4. Heeding."⁹ The quality of the animals can be maintained by making use of a good quality animal for crossing purposes and thereby improving the cattle breed. Uneconomic and unproductive animals should not be allowed to consume valuable fodder resource of the region and therefore, the need for weeding. Without the proper and rich feed much cannot be expected from the livestock in

terms of economic returns. And finally it is very essential to pay need to the proper management of the animal wealth. Animals need proper hygienic conditions such a well ventilated sheds with the provision of meeting adverse or un-comfortable weather conditions. Animals need proper medical care and in case of any contagious disease proper supervision and suitable precautionary steps are needed.

Keeping in view these pressing demands for the development of livestock to improve the lot of rural people the animal husbandry department has engaged itself in rendering some important services to the people. There were more than one thousand four hundred veterinary institutions which include institutions like veterinary dispensaries, mobile dispensaries, first aid centres, livestock development centres, frozen semen centres etc. It was due to the presence of this vast infrastructure that it was possible to treat 31.56 lakhs animals against various diseases in the state as a whole in the year 1985-86.¹⁰ The number of animals dosed against liver fluke was placed at 16.63 lakhs in the same year while 4.87 lakhs animals were vaccinated against rinder pest in Jammu and Kashmir State. Besides, the Animal Husbandry Department is engaged in scientific breeding of the animals particularly for improving and upgrading the local livestock for augmenting the milk production. Extension services are also provided by the department for improving the animal husbandry practices. The depart-

ment is also making efforts to cultivate and support the cultivation programme for proper and nutritious feeding of livestock. In the veterinary hospitals diagnostic facilities, including that of X-rays in some of the major hospitals, are provided. Weedings, perhaps the only sphere where no activity is presently discearned. It is, therefore, very important that the department, through its extension service, should educate the rural people and prepare them for weeding out this uneconomic and unproductive animals so that animals of better breed could be fed on more nutritious and whole diet for better economic gains.

FISHERIES

The Jammu region is an area of great natural charm. It possesses sparkling rivers, silvery springs, natural streams, lakes and hilly torrents. All these attributes despite presenting a scenic beauty of par-excellance offers a great scope for the development of fisheries. The production of fish can raised many fold by taking certain measures directed towards harnessing the abundant waters of the rivers, streams, and lakes even the ponds which are so frequent in the Jammu region.

The important species of fish found in the Jammu and Kashmir are trout, mirror carp and the country fish of Kashmir and Jammu fish in the Jammu region. The Kashmir region is comparatively better placed than the Jammu region in respect of fish caught, if the data available is an indication.

There has been regular but gradual increase in the fish caught in the Kashmir province since 1965-66 but many fluctuations are seen in case of Jammu region. For instance in the Jammu region, the fish caught fell from 8272 quintals in 1968-69 to 4909 quintals in 1970-71 which was further reduced to only 2078 quintals in 1973-74 only to reach a figure of 3156 quintals a year later. This level of fish caught could be surpassed before 1985-86 when it was placed at 5030 quintals.

In order to manage and conserve this natural renewable resource this government has made it necessary to obtain a proper licence for catching the fish for commercial purpose from the water of Jammu and Kashmir. The maximum number of such licence holders in the Jammu region are found in the Jammu district itself. The Jammu district with 374 licence holders is followed by the Udhampur district where the number stood at 303 in 1985-86. The Kathua district with 260 fishing licence holders is followed by Rajouri (182) and Doda (181) while the Poonch with 130 fishing licence holders seems least important in the fishing activity if the issuance of fishing licences is taken as a suitable indicator.

It is interesting to note that while the population dependent on fishing has registered a marginal increase of 3704 in absolute numbers in a decade from 1972 to 1982 which when expressed in percentage comes to assume a figure of 1.82 per cent increase in

the labour force from 5446 in 1972 to 7322 in 1982 gives us a figure of 3.44 per cent per annum increase. This, therefore, shows that quite a number of people dependent on fishing are seeking employment in other sectors of economy. Another inference that can be drawn from the above mentioned fact is that fishing is not considered as an economic activity sufficient to meet the bare minimum needs of the people engaged in it or the available of the fish in the waters can no longer sustain more fisherman. Further the environmental degradation such as increase of silt in waters due to excessive soil erosion in the catchment areas, increase of weed and other chemicals in the waters of lakes, ponds etc. might have resulted in the decrease of fish in the water, thereby, affecting the population dependent on fish as an economic activity.¹¹

SOILS

In the simplest possible way we can describe soils as the stuff in which plant life thrives. Thus for a country like India who has to provide food to its evergrowing population, the importance of soil in which plant life thrives and from which food materials are derived can hardly be over-emphasised. However, a fuller definition of soils seems desirable before any attempt is made to discuss or examine them in any context.

To most of geographers "the term soil means uppermost superficial layer of loose or unconsolidated material overlaying the crustal rocks, in which

plants may grow."¹² But soil is a very complex system which is made up of solid, liquid and gaseous material. The solid phase may be represented by the mineral or organic contents. The mineral portion consists of particles of varying sizes, shapes and chemical compositions. The organic fraction includes residues in different stages of decomposition as well as live active organisms. The liquid phase is the soil water which fills part or all of the open spaces between the solid particles and which varies in its chemical composition and the freedom with it which can move. The gaseous or vapour phase occupies that part of the pore space between the soil particles that is not filled with water, its composition may change within short intervals of time."¹³ Thus the soil is composed of mineral matter which is also sometimes called as skeletal part, organic matter together with water and air. Accordingly, therefore, organic and inorganic component of soils, reacting with climate topography over a period of time gives rise to a soil which performs certain important functions. Important among these functions are that the soils are the medium in which plant seed germinate and the soil provide support to the plant life while in a growing stage. Soil being porous can hold both air and moisture both of which are important for the plant life. Soil performs another important function of supplying mineral substances such as nitrogen, potash, iron etc. which are essential for the plant growth. And finally soil acts as a home for the or-

ganisms whose biological activity recycles the mineral nutrients which are derived from the organic matter.

Thus it can be concluded that the climate and other factor like geomorphic processes aided by geolithology plays an important role in the formation of soils and soil types. On the mountain slopes of Jammu and Kashmir low temperatures prevails due to high altitudes and comparatively high latitudes also. The low temperatures in their own turn do not allow shift weathering. Moreover, the "shorter growing season reduces the scope of physico-chemical and biological processes."¹⁴ Immature soils, therefore, are found on the higher altitudes. At the still higher altitudes we encounter thinner soil cover because of little weathering and chemical reactions and the process continues till we reach the alpine pastures. Accordingly, therefore, mountains generally possess thin soils while valley bottoms and flat surfaces even at higher elevation possess a thick layer of soil cover with good humus contents.

As regards the classification of soils of Jammu region or even for that matter, the whole of Jammu and Kashmir state, very insignificant or rather no work on the scientific lines has so far been done. Nevertheless, the soil survey organisation is pursuing on the scientific lines, the task of soil study and classification of the entire state. Although this work is nearing completion for the Jammu region yet it is not made available either to the farm-

ers or to the researchers for want of its approval from the central organisation. However, H.S. Mann and S.N. Sharma carried out a reconnaissance soil survey of eight blocks in Jammu and Kashmir State comprising of 1370 villages spreading over an area of 286924 hectares. They have established eight soil series. Bansultan, Langotia, Malapur, Katli, Purnava, Majalta, Choha and Chinor, All of them lie in the sub-tropical zone of Jammu region. These series have been categorised by Mann and Sharma into four soil groups: Alluvial soils, brown soils, sub-mountain soils, and arid soils. These soil groups may be considered as the representatives for the major portion of the Jammu region.

Alluvial Soil

These soil are formed by the alluvium deposited by the river Chenab, Tawi and their tributaries which flow through the sub-tropical outer plains. They are found between 360 to 600 metres above mean sea level. The alluvial soils are highly textured, varying from fine sandy loam to loamy course sand. These soils are moderately permeable and are shallow to fairly deep. "The PH varies from 6 to 9.1. The per cent organic matter and nitrogen contents vary from 0.5 to 0.9 and 0.03 to 0.8 respectively. The per cent phosphorus and potash (HCL, SOI) range from 0.06 to 0.1 to 0.5 respectively."¹⁵ The alluvial soil are found mostly in Kathua and Jammu districts, although some patches of saline and saline-alkali soils are also present in the group.

Brown Soil

These soils are developed over sand stone, grey micaceous sand stone and shales. The brown soils are established in the middle mountain region of the Jammu region lying between 600 to 1680 metres above sea level. Unlike alluvial soil, brown soils are medium textured and vary from sandy loam to sandy clay loam. The PH (The concentration of potential hydrogen ions) varies from 6 to 7.6 and its extreme variation lies between 5.5 to 8.2. These soils are firmly deep having moderate permeability. Organic and nitrogen contents vary from 0.7 to 0.9 per cent and 0.02 to 0.08 per cent respectively. The brown soils are frequently met with covering the areas of the Poonch, Rajouri and the Udhampur districts.

Sub-Mountain soil

These soils are the product of alluvium deposited by major rivers along with their tributaries. They are heavy textured soils lying between 1500 to 1600 metres in the middle mountain region. They possess low permeability. The soil ranges between silty loam to clayey loam. PH varies from 6.5 to 8.5 with extreme variations of 5.4 to 9.0. Organic and nitrogen contents vary from 1.5 to 3.0 per cent and 0.1 to 0.3 per cent respectively. In the Kashmir Valley these soils are represented by ware soils, which are highly textured and consists of loam and clayey loam.

Arid Soil

The Jammu, except for outer plain

areas, is a highly mountain region where plateaus, valley and dune valleys are frequently separated from each other by great depressions and high mountain peaks. It is on these plateaus and small valley that we find arid soils which are formed from parent materials like volcanic rocks and laminated ash beds etc. These soils for the most part are light textured with PH value varying from 7. to 8.5. The percentage of nitrogen and organic contents varies from 0.01 to 0.2 per cent and 0.3 to 0.8 per cent respectively.

Although, a very general idea about the soils of Jammu region can be had from the proceeding discussion yet it cannot be considered as a comprehensive explanation. A further attempt of, therefore, was made by Mann and Sharma to classify the soils of the State on more scientific basis. The collected forty representative soil profiles from different agro-climatic zones. These samples were studied and analysed for physico-chemical contents. After careful consideration of agro-climatic zones and the parent rock material with full geological appreciation, the soil orders and sub-orders were determined. For example, in the sub-tropical outer plains particularly in the southern portions of the Jammu and Kathua district where recent alluvial deposits from the parent material, the soil order of 'Entisols' and 'Aquent' sub-order has been found. In the kandi agro-climatic conditions which are most frequently met within the northern portions of the Jammu and Kathua

districts again in the sub-tropical zone and where the undulating ground is full of stones inserted between red and purple semi-nodular clays 'Entisols' soil order is found with 'Psament' sub-order of the soils. But the moment one moves out of sub-tropical plains and enters the Siwalika hills particularly in the intermediate portion of the Kathua, Udhampur, Rajouri and the Poonch districts we encounter Siwalik system of rocks. The eastern portion of this zone, especially the areas like Pani Basoli and Billawar, where thick massive beds of rock which are coarse and micaceous in nature are found. These rocks are so loose and rambling that they can hardly be called as sandstones and where clay and shales are hardly developed 'ultisols' soil order and 'udult' sub-order is found. The further analysis has shown that in the intermediate zone of Udhampur, Reasi and the Nowshera tehsils, the colour of the rocks is pepper and salt grey whereas in the Rajouri, Chenab and north or Ramnagar areas we encounter either very coarse conglomerates or the boulder conglomerates. Sometimes we find a massive bends of sand and brown red earthy clays. Coarse and the boulder conglomerates occur at places where rivers emerge, whereas, sands and clays occupy the intervening ground. It is in these areas, according to Mann and Sharma that we find 'ultisols' soil order and 'Aqualt' sub-soil order.

In the temperate zone of the Jammu region spreading over the Doda and

Poonch districts where Murry system of rocks and layers of oligocene lower miocene are located along with Hazara limestone perhaps of permian or permo-carboniferous age. It is on these formations that "inceptisols" soil order and "Aquent" sub-soil order have been identified. The same inceptions soil order and aquent sub-order is also frequently met within the areas lying in the northern section of Doda district where crystalline metamorphic and granites and gnessic rocks are very frequent over the ground. Pidzoic soils of the Doda and the Poonch districts have been identified as belonging to the soil order of 'spodosols' and sub-order of 'aquod' these soils are found especially in the temperate region of the Doda and the Poonch districts

Accordingly, therefore, if one has to conclude the discussion about the soils of Jammu region it would be sufficient to say that the region which has no mean agricultural production maintains alluvial, brown, sub-mountain and arid soils with varying degrees of pH values, organic, phosphorus, potash and other mineral contents. Nonetheless, physico-chemical contents when analysed with reference to parent rock material and geology of the regions given 'entisols', ultisols and inceptisols and 'spodosols' soil orders with aquent, psament, udult, aqualt and aquod sub-orders of the soils.

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HOW THE STATE IS GOVERNED

THE CONSTITUTION

The State of Jammu and Kashmir, of which Jammu region is an administrative division, became the integral part of India on October, 26, 1947. The state sent a team of four representatives to take part in the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly of India. This team was headed by Janab Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. A special status was accorded to Jammu and Kashmir state by this Constituent Assembly. As a result of it a Constituent Assembly to draft a separate constitution for the state was set up in 1951 which was envisaged even in the proclamation of Maharaja Hari Singh on March, 5, 1948. It was, through this proclamation that the power of the state was transferred to the representatives of the people.

The first ever elections on the basis of adult franchise were held in September, 1951 which returned 75 members from various constituencies of the State. The first sitting of this Constituent Assembly took place on 31st October, 1951 at Srinagar. One of the major task before this Assembly was to frame a constitution by virtue of

which the people of the state are to be governed in future. Consequently, this Assembly appointed, among others, a constitution drafting committee. This committee prepared a draft constitution which was debated in the Assembly over a month and ultimately Assembly unanimously approved and adopted the new constitution on 17th November, 1956 to govern the state. This adopted constitution supports and rests on the fundamental truth of justice, equality and liberty that can secure the dignity to the individual and can keep the state united. After adopting such a constitution the constituent Assembly dissolved itself on the day the Constitution came into force i.e. 26th January, 1957.

The salient features of the constitution which deserve special mention and are important for the governance of the state are :-

(i) that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is and shall remain an integral part of the Union of India.

(ii) The territories of the state shall include all those areas which formed its part as on 15th August, 1947 i.e.

all those areas, which were under the sovereignty or suzerainty of Maharaja Hari Singh-the then ruler of the Jammu and Kashmir State. It is interesting to note that this constitution allows only the state subjects to own immovable property in the state or serve the State Government in any capacity. About the State subjects or the permanent residents of the state, the constitution in its Section 6 says:- (1) Every person who is or is deemed to be, a citizen of India shall be a permanent resident of the state if on the fourteenth day of May, 1954, (a) he has a state subject Certificate of Class I or Class II; or (b) having lawfully acquired immovable property in the state, he had been ordinarily resident in the state for not less than ten years prior to that date:-

(iii) Any person who, before the fourteenth day of May, 1954, was State Subject of Class I or Class II and who having migrated after the first day of March 1947 to the territory now included in Pakistan, returns to the State under a permit for resettlement in the state or for permanent return issued by or under the authority of any law made by the State Legislature, shall on such return be a permanent resident of the State." Thus according to the constitution of the State any person who has migrated to Pakistan in 1947 can return to the State and acquire all his property which he might have left in 1947 but no citizen of India who is not a permanent resident of the State according to the constitution of the state can either

acquire immovable property in the state or can serve the state government in any capacity unless state government secures the services of such individual or individuals from other parts of the country for a specific period of time.

The constitution of the state envisages to establish a socialistic order of the society for promotion and welfare of the people. Section 13 of the constitution says: "the prime object of the state consistent with ideals and objectives of the freedom movement envisages in "New Kashmir" shall be the promotion of the welfare of the mass of the people by establishing and preserving a socialistic order of society, wherein all exploitation of man has been abolished and wherein justice-social, economic and political-shall inform all institutions of national life."

The constitution of the state recognised the right of its citizens to the free education and the constitution says that "the state shall endeavour":

- (a) to secure to every permanent resident the right to free education up to the University Standard;
- (b) to provide with a period of ten years from the commencement of this constitution compulsory education to all children until they complete the age of fourteen years; and
- (c) to ensure to all workers and

employees adequate facilities for adult education and part-time technical, professional and vocational courses."

About the right of the children the constitution says, "the state shall strive to secure;

- (a) to all children the right to happy childhood with adequate medical care and attention; and
- (b) to all children and youth equal opportunities in education and employment protection against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment."

On the rights of the women the constitution says, "the state shall endeavour to secure to all women:

- (a) the right to equal pay for equal work;
- (b) the right to maternity benefits as well as adequate medical care in all employments;
- (c) the right to reasonable maintenance extending to cases of married women who have been divorced or abandoned;
- (d) the right to full equality in all social, educational, political and legal matters.
- (e) special protection against discourtesy, defamation, hooliganism and other form of misconduct."

According to the constitution of the state the official language would be Urdu but English language would continue to be used for all the official purposes for which it was being used immediately before this constitution came into force.

The constitution of the state can be amended by introduction of a bill for the purpose in the Legislative Assembly. The amendment can be through only if the bill is passed by a majority not less than two third in each house. The bill passed in both the houses with two third majority of its total members, then would be presented to the Governor for his assent. It is only after the assent of the Governor is obtained, the constitution shall stand amended.

Writing on the Development of Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir "Dr. Adarsh Sein Anand, the then Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court writes thus:

The Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir is an instrument made up of material borrowed from various sources, but mainly from the constitution of India. It has borrowed not only the substance but also the language. Nonetheless it has not been forced on the people of Kashmir; it has been evolved by their own representatives. Like Kashmir handicraft, it is a work which reflects both the simplicity of Kashmiris and their love for details".¹

Thus we see that the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir by which the people of the state are governed is not materially different from the Constitution of India of which Jammu and Kashmir is an internal part.

LEGISLATURE

The legislature of the state is bicameral. It consists of a legislative Assembly (Lower House). 76 members are elected to the Legislative Assembly from as many constituencies by adult franchise. According to the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir those areas which formed the part of Jammu and Kashmir on 15th day of August, 1947 and were under the sovereignty or suzerainty of the ruler of the state form the territory of the Jammu and Kashmir State. As a result of it 24 seats in the Legislative Assembly have been kept vacant for the people of the area of the state which is now under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. In case, the women are not represented in the Legislative Assembly then under the constitution of the State Governor can nominate two women members to the legislative Assembly. Out of the 76 members 42 are elected from the Kashmir valley, 32 from Jammu region while Ladakh region sends two members to the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council (upper House) consists of 36 members. Of these eleven members from the Jammu region, eleven from Kashmir valley are elected by the members of Legislative Assembly. One member each from

Kashmir valley and Jammu region is elected by local authorities constituency. Four members are elected by members of the Panchayats-two each from Kashmir and Jammu provinces. And finally eight members are nominated by the Governor. The nominated members are amongst the persons having special knowledge and practical experience in art, science or literature, and also in the other social fields.

At the moment Legislative Assembly stands dissolved and the state is placed under President's rule. Nonetheless in the outgoing Legislative Assembly the strength of different political parties stood as under;

National Conference (Farooq)	:	41
Congress (Indira)	:	27
Muslim United Front	:	4
Bharatiya Janta Party	:	2
and Independents	:	4

thereby making a total of 78 members which include two nominated women members from Kashmir province.

Although National Conference (Farooq) enjoyed absolute majority yet under the agreement Dr. Farooq Abdullah entered into with Rajiv Gandhi the then Prime Minister of India, he (Dr. Farooq Abdullah) was obliged to head a coalition Government of National Conference and Congress(I). Further it was widely alleged by all sections of the society that the elections held in 1987 were grossly rigged in favour of Congress(I)

National Conference combine. However both the parties denied the allegation.

The strength of various political parties in Legislative Council stands at :

National Conference (Farooq)	17
Congress (Indira)	12
National Conference (Khalida)	1

Thus we see the national parties like Bharatiya Janta Party is not all represented in the State Legislative Council. Again important political parties of the national importance which are neither represented in the State Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council include, Lok Dal, C.P.I., CPI(M) and Congress(S) etc.

Executive: The Governor is the head of the State and all executive powers, under the constitution of Jammu and Kashmir, are vested in the Governor. The Governor exercises these executive powers either directly or through officers subordinate to him. But the Governor himself is appointed by the President of India and holds office at the pleasure of the President. In order to help the Governor to discharge his executive powers and his functions there is a Council of Ministers. At the present moments when the State is placed under the President's rule, the Governor is advised by his advisors in order to exercise his functions as head of the state executive. Nevertheless, the executive work has been divided into number of departments

which under the normal circumstances are placed under different ministers for proper administration. Some of the important departments that work under the different Minister to help the Governor to exercise his executive powers are the General Department which looks after general administration services, cabinet work, training, scholarships, loan etc. Public Service Commission, recruitments boards, administrative reforms and the like.

Planning Department: It takes care of planning, manpower planning, statistics evaluation, economic development of backward areas and groups, employment etc. Similarly Home Department attends to law and order, police, civil, liaison, jails, anti-corruption including vigilance, home guards and civil defence etc. other departments which are placed under the charge of a minister are Higher and technical education, Animal/Sheep Husbandry, Agriculture, Social Education, Social Welfare, Labour, Industries and Commerce, Food and Supplies, Transport Power Development, Health and Family Welfare, Medical Education, Forests wild life and Fisheries, Law and Parliamentary Affairs and the like. All such departments look after and administer each of these areas in the interest of the people taking into consideration their welfare.

It is of little significance to write that in order to advise the Governor in exercise of his functions, the council of ministers incharge of one or more

departments directly work under the Chief Minister who is elected as the leader of the majority party in the Legislative Assembly. It is the Chief Minister who allocates the different departments to the team of ministers selected by him taking into consideration the sole fact of providing efficient, clean administration to the people of the State.

Judiciary: The judicial system in the state can be taken as a three tier judicial system. Munsiff is the lowest in the judicial hierarchy and operates in an area of his own pecuniary and territorial jurisdiction defined by law. A munsiff can hear a suit up to Rs. 5000/- in value. Subordinate judge is next higher position in the judicial system. He also operates in an area defined by law and hears suits up to the value of Rs.15000/- only. In a district the District Judge heads the judicial hierarchy. He is responsible for controlling and administering the judicial officers and their subordinate staff placed at various stations within the district. He can hear a suit only up to the value of Rs. 20,000/-. But if the high court of the state refers any suit irrespective of its value to any district judge then he can hear for its lawful disposal. It is so required by the law to institute a case of more value than Rs. 20,000/- in the High Court before it could be transferred to the district judge for its disposal. This in fact the major difference between the judicial system of this region and many other High Courts of the country where district judge are

the Principal courts to entertain any civil suit irrespective of its value. This is due to the provisions made in the state's constitution and in addition to it the letter of patent requires that such a suit (i.e. a suit above the value of Rs. 20,000) should first instituted in the High Court.

When a District Judge hears a criminal case he does so in the capacity of a session judge and in such a situation he exercises appellate as well as revisional powers in relation to all the discussions and orders passed by all the subordinate Courts. He, however, can not act so in case the sentence is more than four years.

In addition to the above hierarchy of the judicial system every district has a Chief Judicial Magistrate who subordinates all the Judicial Magistrates posted in the district.

Besides, there are many special Magistrates who try the offences summarily on the spot. Such magistrate are required to enforce law in the cases under Motor Vehicle Act, Electricity Act, Municipal Act, and Passenger Tax Act etc. These Magistrates also act as Sub-Registrars and Registrars under the Registration Act for registering the documents under it.

There are six districts in the Jammu region at present and, therefore, there are as many District Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates. Besides there is a designate court established under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities

(prevention) Act 1985 and a Motor accident claim tribunal where the victims of the Motor Vehicle Accidents can make their claims over and above all these Courts there are number of sub-Judges and Munsiff Courts in the region to discharge their duties.

Until 1968, the High Court of the State used to sit six months at Jammu during winters and remaining six months of the summers, Srinagar would become the headquarters of the

Court. But since 1968 permanent benches of the High Court started functioning both at Jammu and Srinagar due largely to the increase both the strength of the Judges and in the number of cases. Chief Justice, however, moves to the summer and winter capitals of the state along with the government. This arrangement has benefited the litigants of the region which used to face sufficient hardships prior to this arrangement.

REFERENCE

1. Jammu and Kashmir Year Book and Who's Who 1987 p. 3 Section II.

Note : The whole of this chapter is based on the information gathered from this Who's Who.

VI

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

Not much is known about the educational systems prevalent in the region during the ancient or even during the medieval times. However, a few references are available from which it can be inferred that there existed an arrangement from teaching Sanskrit in some *Mandirs* (Temples) at Jammu under the patronage of the Dogra rulers in general and Maharaja Ranbir Singh in particular. Similarly, it is believed that there was an advance centre of learning situated at Parmandal where learned Pandits were available to impart the education relevant to the society of the time. As time passed on and modern era approached the Government also started taking interest in providing the educational avenues to its subjects. When the last Dogra ruler Maharaja Hari Singh was replaced by the popular Government of Sheikh Mohammed Abdulla there were three degree colleges two at Srinagar and one at Jammu affiliated to Punjab University, Lahore. A few high school most of them located in and around Jammu and Srinagar cities were also existing. The number of primary and

Middle schools existed but their overall adequacy was much less than minimum requirement.

After the popular Government took over the reign of administration of the state, an effort was made to modernise and popularise the education among the masses. It is important to note that education was made free up to University level by the first popular Government itself. Number of primary, middle and high schools increased resulting in the growth of total enrolment in the institutions of learnings thereby resulting an expansion in the number of educated people.

But still the State of Jammu and Kashmir is one of the educationally backward states of the country. However, the increase in the numbers of educational institutions from Primary to College level have resulted in the increase in the literacy rate from 11 per cent in 1961 to 26.67 per cent in 1981. The following Table (6.1) gives the details of the increase in the total numbers of educational institution in the State of Jammu and Kashmir since 1950-51. The increase in the number

TABLE 6.1
Number of Educational Institutions (in Absolute Numbers)

Status of Institution	1950-51	1960-61	% increase over 1950-51	1970-71	% increase over 1960-61	1980-81	% increase over 1970-71	1985-86	% increase over 1980-81
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Primary Schools	1115	2859	156.41	5133	79.53	7406	44.28	7860	6.13
Middle Schools	139	533	283.45	1454	172.79	2046	40.71	2193	7.18
High & Higher Secondary Schools	55	250	354.54	561	124.4	868	54.7	976	12.44
Colleges for General Education	9	12	33.33	20	66.66	23	15	23	0.00

Source:- J & K Year Book and Who's Who 1987.

of primary schools during the decade 1950-51 to 1960-61 was to the tune of 156.41 per cent.

The corresponding increase in the case of middle and High/Hr. Secondary Institution was 283.45 and 354.54 per cent respectively. Similarly there was a comparatively marginal increase in the number of colleges from 9 to 12 during this decade. The primary school increased from 2859 in 1960-61 to 5133 in 1970-71 thereby registering an increase of 79.53 per cent during this decade. In the case of high and Higher Secondary School there was an increase of 124.4 per cent and number of middle schools increased by 172.79 per cent over their absolute number (533) in 1960-61. The percentage increase in the number of college during the decade 1960-61 to 1970-71 was impressive 66.66. Similarly decadal increases in primary, middle and high schools during 1970-71 to 1980-81 was respectively 44.28, 40.71 and 54.7 per cent, whereas, there was 15 per cent increase in the institutions of higher learning i.e. colleges. Again we find that there was a marginal increase in the number of primary, middle and high schools between 1980-81 and 1985-86 but there was no increase in the number of colleges during this period.

From the above discussion one can conclude that the successive Government have been following a policy of providing school facilities within a reasonable walking distance in the otherwise hilly and mountainous state.

This policy would work positively to achieve the goal of universalization of elementary education.

As we have seen substantial increase in the number of schools and colleges there has been a corresponding increase in the enrolments in these institutions during the same period. A cursory look at Table 6.2 would throw a light on this aspect.

The Table 6.2 reveals certain important facts. In the first place we see that although there has been a considerable increase in the enrolment of students in the primary schools level from merely 64000 in 1950-51 to 3,44,000 in 1985-86 yet there was a marginal increase in the teacher student ratio. In 1950-51 there were 3.37 teachers per hundred students which rose to only 3.47 teachers per hundred students in 1985-86. In the middle school level situation seems more discouraging. Although there is substantial increase in the enrolment of the students from 19,000 in 1950-51 to 353,000 in 1985-86 yet there is a steep fall in the teacher and taught ratio. This ratio dropped from 6.2 teachers per hundred students in 1950-51 to 4.61 teachers per hundred students in 1985-86. At the high school level students enrolments saw considerable increase while a marginal increase from 4.38 to 4.87 teachers per hundred students was seen from 1950-51 to 1985-86. Almost similar situation is seen in the higher education where we see that enrolment in the colleges increased from 2779 in 1950-51 to 20089

TABLE 6.2
Enrolment and Teachers for General Education (No. of Std. in Lakhs and Teachers Nos.)

Status of Institutions	1950-51		1960-61		1970-71		1980-81		1985-86	
	Std. on Roll	No. of teachers	Std. on Roll	No. of teachers	Std. on Roll	No. of teachers	Std. on Roll	No. of teachers	Std. on Roll	No. of teachers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Primary Schools	0.64	21.62 (3.37)	1.48	4404 (2.97)	2.13	6724 (3.15)	2.68	10659 (3.97)	3.44	11970 (3.47)
Middle Schools	0.19	1178 (6.2)	0.65	2412 (3.71)	1.57	6833 (4.35)	2.57	13228 (5.14)	3.53	16286 (4.61)
High Schools	0.21	921 (4.38)	0.91	3514 (3.86)	1.89	8452 (4.47)	2.87	15626 (5.44)	3.47	16929 (4.87)
Colleges In Nos.	2779	158 (5.18)	8005	337 (4.20)	22741	897 (3.94)	16914	1161 (6.86)	20089	1211 (6.02)

Note: The figures in bracket indicate the number of teachers per 100 students.

in 1985-86 with a marginal increase in the teacher student ratio (Table 6.2)

University Education : The Jammu region is served by University of Jammu located at Jammu city. All the degree colleges of the region, mostly managed by Jammu and Kashmir Government, are affiliated to the Jammu University. In fact, the beginning of Jammu University started in 1956 when the post graduate teaching in Geology and Economic started at a small campus on the canal road at Jammu under the aegis of Jammu and Kashmir University with headquarter at Srinagar. A 'sub-registry' of Jammu and Kashmir University started at Jammu in 1957 to meet the needs of the students of Jammu region. The Post Graduate teaching in Chemistry and Sanskrit started in 1962, while in History in 1963 and commerce in 1964. This was followed by the creation of an autonomous division of Jammu and Kashmir University at Jammu and post graduate teaching in Hindi, Urdu, and English started during the same year. The Department of Physics, Pol. Sc., and Mathematics came to this autonomous division in 1966.

However, the Jammu University came into being by an act of the legislature called the "Kashmir and Jammu University act 1969" which received the assent of the Governor on 30 October, 1969 to replace an ordinance promulgated by the Governor on 5th September 1969 through which the University of Kashmir with Headquar-

ter at Srinagar and University of Jammu with Headquarter at Jammu were created. Thus the University of Jammu took its birth on 5th September, 1969. The University has now emerged out of its juvenile stage of growth and is entering a phase where consolidation seems its first priority. The different post-graduate departments have their own thrust areas. The Department of Physics has received a special assistance for pursuing its thrust area of high energy solid state Physics, electronics and molecular spectroscopy. The Post Graduate Department of Geology proposes to develop Palaeo-geology, Engineering geology, and geo-hydrology. However, the department is guiding the research in igneous and metamorphic rocks, minerology, Palaeontology and stratigraphy sedimentology. The department of Biosciences (which includes both Botany and Zoology) is actively engaged in the environmental and cytogenetic studies. The thrust areas of the Chemistry department are organic, in-organic and physical branches of the subject. Topology and Functional Analysis are the main thrust areas of Mathematics. Similarly, Criminology, Constitution and Administrative Law are the important thrust areas of Law Department.

Geography and Statistics are the most recent additions to the post-graduate departments of the University. The thrust areas of geography department are the man and environments, forest and forestry, regional and rural development. Besides, the

department is fully alive to the studies in agriculture, geography and geomorphology. The department of economic is engaged in the researches in agricultural economics, monetary economics, rural and developmental economics. All the languages cater to the needs of the region in the respective languages such as Hindi, Panjabi, Urdu and Dogri. The Department of English has its due place in the University. University provides correspondence courses in many subjects and a department of continuing education is actively engaged in its pursuits of extending education to the masses. It has organised courses in Cost Accountancy, Company Secretaryship and Foreign languages. It provides coaching in many other subjects too.

Although the headquarter of Sher-E-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology is not located in the Jammu region yet some of its centres are located in the region and the University Camp Office moves to Jammu in the winters. The University has many research centres in the Jammu region to serve the people. Through the extension services the University is doing a commendable job in the development of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, sericulture and fisheries. The University is thus involved not only in imparting education relevant to the development of agriculture but is also pursuing research work results of which when transferred to the farmer would increase the production.

Besides these educational institutions there are number of other establishments which impart technical and professional education to the people of the region. Important among them are Govt. Medical College Jammu and Govt. Polytechnic Jammu. The latter offers diploma courses in civil, mechanical, electrical and automobile engineering. Government Polytechnic Jammu also provides post diploma courses in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration. It also provides two years draftman course in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. Besides polytechnic education, there are number of Industrial Training Institutes, located at Bhaderwah, Doda, Gool, Hiranagar, Jammu, Kishtawar, Kathua, Mendhar, Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, Ramban, Sunderbani, Udhampur, and Billawar. All these institutes impart training both in engineering trades and non-engineering trades. The important trades in which training is imparted are the trades like T.V., Radio, Repairs, House Hold wiring, Smithy, Welding, Motor Mechanic, and Plumbing etc.

In the medical college, however, basic, M.B.B.S. courses are provided with the facility of post graduate degree in many branches of Medical Sciences.

Thus we see that the region has sufficient infrastructure for imparting education to the people of the region. Except for an engineering college people of the region have the facility to receive education according to their liking or capability.

ARCHITECTURE - SCULPTURE - PAINTINGS ETC.

To write about the architecture, sculpture, paintings etc. of any region is not an easy task. This fact assumes greater significance in case of Jammu region where the folk art wealth is extending far and wide over the entire Jammu region. Nevertheless, an attempt is being made to understand the folk art which represents expression of instinctive aesthetic approach of the common man towards the life and its varied aspects. Another fact that influences the folk art of the region is the religion. For instance the icons of religions deities which amply exhibit the craftsmanship of the people is born out more of religious faith than of aesthetic sense or love for beauty or lovely imaginations that an artist can possess. In most of the cases these icons are developed over flat stones of the rectangular rather more commonly square shaped. The important figures include that of Lord Rama, Sita, Lakshman, Ganesh, Vishnu, Vaishno Mata (Mother) and various other deities and the Devtas (Gods). Apart from these, many icons of snakes, which are worshiped here are found in the entire region.

The sun is the most powerful God and hence is worshiped not only in the Jammu region but in almost entire India. It is, therefore, not surprising to see the sun as one of important symbols used in the folk art of the Jammu region. An elephant which is considered as a symbol of power and strength occupies an important place

in folk art of the Jammu region. "Recent addition to Dogra Art Gallery are the carved sand stones of various dimensions, brought from Udhampur by the side of Devika river. The chiselled figures also show the moving elephants." Thus elephants as a symbol of folk art occupies an honourable position in the region. Among the other ingredients of art nature finds a prominent place. We find that various trees of the region such as mango tree, banana tree and flowers like lotus and roses find honourable place as symbols used in the folk art of the Jammu region. Similarly, animals such as crocodiles, fishes and tortoise etc. form the subject-matter of folk art of the region.

Sculpture becomes a magnificent art in this mountainous region of Jammu province which is occupied by and large by Dogra people. It becomes fascinating when one comes across wonderful 'customs'. Chiselled stones depict the life of the region in its various forms. Most of these chiselled stones are black and grey sand stones which are so easily found in the entire region. Although there is no fixed rule yet we find that black sand stone are used for making icons of various deities worshiped locally while the grey sand stones are used for shaping other images. The images of deities on sculptured sand stones generally decorate the numerous springs that abound the region. The springs that are situated near the capitals of the old but small hilly states are rather finally beautified with sharp lining and

images having artistic gestures. The stones used for the spring decorations are coarse and absolutely black. They are cut in square flat slab having different motifs in two dimensions only. Their size varies from 1'X1' to 3'X2'. Sometimes a single slab is used for carving a number of figures together. Water springs of Panchary are very rich with multifigured single sand stone slabs. Mostly a single such slab was used for a single spring. About half km. towards Nullah from Panchary Bazar there is a dead spring buried with such numerous slabs. These stones slabs are conical structure flat at the base gradually tapering up at the apex. They are almost 3'X2' in measurement. The figures chiselled out are the water motifs like nymphs, Yakshini with a pot full of water, snakes, Lotus flower etc. Some slabs contain unknown and unidentified deities."

The people of the area believe in these figures of deities rather blindly. They feel that their happiness and sorrows, are gifts of these images and hence their worship is obligatory on them. The people in the part used to sacrifice a lamb or even hen but now they offer only sweet dish to please these deities.

The carved images of deities are found more numerous along the bank of river Devika in the Udhampur and also around the springs (Baolies). The figures of two Yakshinis with water contained, a three faced

god on peacock and a coiled serpent are found on the spring situated on the bank of Devika river near Udhampur where people generally go to take their bath. In addition to it, there are figures of a lady in three different postures — Two figures with Kalsha and the third with a baby. While on the opposite side of river Devika another important Baoli surrounded by big chiselled sand slabs depicting the figures of various gods and deities. Important among them are the figure of Hanuman, Ganesha, Shiva and Parvati, Vishnu on the bed of Shesh Naga, Brahma riding on Garuda and finally a coiled serpent. Another spring (Baoli) situated near this site has different story to tell. It is the nature that has been the subject-matter for the sculptor who chiselled the sand stones to depict different species of plants along with the general theme of gods, Yakshas and coiled serpents.

At Jib—place situated a few kms. from Udhampur we again notice numerous springs—most of them are dead now due mainly to the degradation of forest cover in the catchment areas but few are still active. Numerous sand stone slabs are chiselled to depict various deities, gods with many images which now are beyond any recognition. Nevertheless, these images are no less important from artistic point of view. In the similar way we find nearly twelve carved sand stones at paap Nashni Baoli near Sudh Mahadev minutely describing, besides various Hindu gods and deities in their dif-

ferent manifestations, a horseman visiting a king. Again at Chenani we find as many as thirty-five sand stones telling different mythological stories of the Hindu religion along with certain social scene such as a wrestling duel, a horse rider soldier with arms, fighting figures in duel form, horse rider with a gun in hand, a lady servant dancing before her mistress, two beautiful ladies sitting on palankeen etc. Similar sculptures are available through out the region particularly on the springs. Sometimes the springwater is allowed to flow through the mouth of lion (which again is carved out of a sand stone and is positioned as such) like the one we see in the centre of the Kud town and at many other places in the region. Thus in the conclusion we can say that the sculptors of the region have made these sand stones to speak, dance and fascinate the people along with the preservation of the social and cultural heritage of the region.

PAINTING

In the field of painting the region is not only famous in the country but is known the worked over. The miniature paintings created by artists in the courts of principalities which promoted the art and encouraged the artists were of a class of itself. The prominent principalities which encouraged art and artists were Mankot, Jasrota, Basoli, Nurpur, Chamba, Kangra, Guler, Siba etc. It was in the seventeenth century that the miniature art saw a beginning in the region and

got encouraged and finally emerged as a Pahari school of painting in the eighteenth century. In fact the Pahari art first pushed out at Mankot principality some where after 1650 AD. It was at this place that the development of a school of portraiture was witnessed and continued to grow for about century. Raja Mahipat Dev's portrait was perhaps the earliest piece of art of the region. It was from Mankot that the art travelled to Basoli in the latter part of seventeenth century under the reign of Kirpal Pal Balauria when pictures of Shiva and Devi etc were painted. From the last decade of 17th century to 1736 this Basoli style saw a considerable change. The change was certainly an improvement insofar as the fineness of the art was concerned. Dhiraj Pal and Medini Pal who ruled the state between 1693 - 1722 - 1736 respectively gave their full patronage to the development of the art. It is said that this art of painting migrated to Jammu hills from the Mugul court during the 17th century. The art developed in the Mugul court during the reign of Akbar the great and Shahjahan who were great lovers of art but after Shahjahan when Aurangzeb captured the power of Delhi, he withdrew all support and patronage provided by his predecessors for the development of the art. The Aurangzeb not only withdrew patronage out was also adverse to the artistic activity. As a result of it all the artists had no alternative but to migrated to other suitable places where they could flourish and carry

on their work peacefully. Jammu Hill area was one such place for artists to bloom. Consequently during the last quarter of 17th century painters migrated from Delhi to Jammu, Basohli, Nurpur and probably to Ramnagar and Mandi. As a result of it Jammu, Ramnagar and Basohli school or centre of paintings developed and continued to dominate scene for about a half a century. After Nadir Shah invaded Delhi in 1739 another exodus of artists from Delhi took place in which pandit Seu and his two sons named Nainsakh and Manaku migrated to Jammu and worked both at Jammu and Jasrota under the patronage of Raja Balwant Singh who loved art and artist very well. It will be beyond the scope of the present volume to deal in detail about the developmental history of art in the Jammu Hills. Nevertheless, it is important to state that after Raja Balwant Singh passed away these artists migrated to Nurpur and Guler where they found patronage and developed Kangra 'Kalam'. In short these bands of artists continued to shift from one place to another, wherever, they could find patronage and yet were able to establish and develop local art of great charm and delicacy. These artists painted different sets on the themes like Bhagwat Puran, The Geet Gobing, Bara Masa, Ragmalas, Ramayana etc. besides painting the portraits of their patrons. These artists also selected the common man, farmers soldiers and generals for their paintings. The paintings by these artists also in-

clude the stories of lovers and Beloveds, dresses worn by princess. In fact these paintings include every thing, every emotion, every story (religious or live) that are liked by the people. In the words of M.S. Randhawa, "In fact the Basohli artists have represented in a tangible and expressive form the entire material and spiritual texture of the life of the Hindus in the western Himalayas in the 17th and early 18th centuries paintings."

Apart from these artistic endeavour by dedicated artist coming from outside the region and or emerging from the soil of Jammu region we find a rich tradition of folk painting. The tradition of folk painting can be seen in the buildings of big land lords, Jagirdars or feudal lords. It seems that the artists remained busy in painting the walls of 'Havelies' of rich men of the region. The folk painting are still prevalent in the rural areas where people paint the grain stores, walls floors etc. with artistic flavour. The folk paintings of region can be divided into two main categories i.e., (1) floor paintings and (11) wall paintings.

Floors of Kuccha mud houses in the villages of the region are kept tidy by pasting a mixture of cow dung and mud in a thin venear. This type of pasting gives a peculiar shine and smoothness resembling quite close to cemented floor after drying. These floors are then painted to depict different geometrical figures or floral diagrams with suitable colours. All

this work is done by no trained or professional painters but the ladies of the household. Floor paintings in the region are a common feature of decoration and beautification of the house particularly on occasions like marriages and other social functions when floor painting becomes almost a must for almost every Hindu family of the rural areas. Similarly on the occasion of Tulsi Puja — worship of a plant which is considered as an auspicious one. The festival falls somewhere in October — November every year.

As in the case of floor painting, wall painting also requires a smooth pasting of mud and cow dung mixtures. After it is done liquid white clay figures are painting on the walls. These figures are related to various aspect of life which may include animals, birds a made siting in a palanquin with many carriers. Other important figures include that to the sun. The moon, wall painting differ from one house to another depending upon the likes and dislikes of the house hold or the capability of the painter which as mentioned earlier is normally a lady of the household. Apart from white clay numerous other colours are also used for these folk paintings. Important among them are brick a red, yellow and black. All these paintings are devoid of any specific technique. But all such wall paintings like floor paintings are associated either with certain festivals like Deepavali or social functions like marriages, birth of a male child etc. But wall paintings, after the monsoon season is over and

festival season of Dusehra and Deepawali comes closer, becomes more important rather indispensable for almost every household. Similarly folk paintings become absolute necessity around all religious places such is Dehries, Dehras around Nagpanchami where nagas are worshiped by the people of the region.

Thus we see that painting is an art flourished in the courts of various Rajas and different artists came to this region to show their talent. They were, thus responsible for creating Jammu, Ramban and Basohli school of paintings. These schools of paintings are recognised now throughout the world. And in the folk painting Jammu region is quite rich. Although the rural people are quite poor and possess only mud houses but they keep them tidy by painting their floors and walls particularly on social and religious functions. All these paintings shows the contentment and interest of the people to live enjoy a contended life.

Libraries and Museums: As has already been stressed that the successive governments have paid reasonable attention for the promotion of education and improving its standard. As a result of it literacy rates have increased considerably. This resulted in the need for the establishment of libraries. Two public libraries, one at Jammu and other at Srinagar, were existing even before 1947. But as the need was felt to increase their numbers due to increase in the literacy rate, we now, therefore,

find a public library at every district headquarter. However, the public libraries are now being extended to even tehsil headquarters. In order to manage all this a separate directorate had been created and is functional at present. It procures almost every book published in different languages, but pertaining to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Besides, the books belonging to different branches of knowledge are also procured and distributed to these public libraries.

Apart from these public libraries every institution of higher learning (degree colleges, Universities and technical institutions) maintain their own libraries with titles belonging to different branches of knowledge including of course the titles pertaining to art, culture, history, fiction, philosophy, religion and science etc. These institutions get funds from the U.G.C. and the state government in order to enrich their respective libraries with new titles in every branches of knowledge. The libraries of old institutions like Government Gandhi Memorial Science College at Jammu, S.P. College and Amar Singh College of Srinagar are particularly rich in their collection and number of titles they possess, Sri Ranbir Library — a public library at Jammu is quite rich and accommodates books on almost all the subjects and is well attended by the book lovers. All these libraries do have reading rooms where people come to read newspapers, news magazines and other good books of the hour.

All these libraries are squarely meeting the need of the people of the region. District libraries are particularly important because they quench the thirst of knowledge of the people living in far flung hilly areas where even newspaper reach two or three days after their publication. Nevertheless, these libraries do have reading rooms where these states newspapers are available to fill in the detail of already heard news over radio and television — a facility which is now available almost every where in the region.

Museums which are considered to be the institutions where one studies or is able to see the objects of historic educational, artistic or scientific nature are unable to get much importance in the region. The Amar Mahal (palace) which has now been converted into a museum at Jammu is the only one which merits attention. The museum contains articles of historical nature apart from some beautiful pieces of art and crafts. The valuables of the last ruler of the state also increase the value of the museum. But for this museum one fails to mention any other in the entire region.

Cultural and Literary Societies: As we shall see that Jammu region is a region of many languages. The important among them being Dogri, Punjabi and Gojri. Nevertheless, Kashmiri language is also in use in certain pockets of the region. Consequently it is but natural that these languages give

TABLE 6.3

S.No.	Name of the Society	States of the societies
1.	Punjabi Sahit Sabha Poonch	Recognised and registered under societies act
2.	Punjabi Sahit Sabha Rajouri	-do-
3.	Punjabi Lekhak Sabha Jammu	-do-
4.	Punjabi Sahit Sabha Ranbir Singh Pura.	Registered but not recognised by academy
5.	Punjabi Sahit Sangam Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.	Neither recognised nor registered
6.	Balraj Sahwney Punjabi Rang Manch, Jammu	Recognised and registered.

rise to as many cultural groups. However, there are certain languages which are not at all spoken in the entire region and yet are important for being either the official languages of the state (Urdu) or the national language (Hindi). Thus Hindi or Urdu both being alien occupy of their due place in the region. A good number of people not only know them competently but also attempt to create literature in these alien languages. As a result of it all we, therefore, find that literacy societies of all these languages exist and are contributing to enrich all these languages. The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages at Jammu/Srinagar is actively engaged to promote the interest of all these languages. The academy helps the individual writers in more than one way. It provides them insertive, helps them in getting their literary works published at individual level. It also financially helps the various cultural and literary societies to function and promote the interests of the language. The Table 6.3 is the

list of important and registered recognised cultural and literary societies functioning in the region in different languages.

Punjabi: Punjabi is the major language spoken and understood throughout the region. It can be considered as a link language between the people of the region speaking different language like Dogri, Gojri and even Kashmiri the following societies are engaged in the promotion of the language in the Jammu region. Organisations from serial number one to five are engaged in the literary pursuits while at serial number six has pledged its services to the promotion of Punjabi theatre. This Manch has staged innumerable dramas on various themes in general and on national integration in particular. It has won many prizes of Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, culture and Language. The Manch has successfully staged drama at different places outside the Jammu city a distinction which is special to it.

Dogri is the another most important language rather the language of the entire 'Dogra Desh'. It is spoken in different forms at different places in the entire Jammu region. After independence the language has developed at a tremendous speed. A lot of literature has been added to its store and different literary figures got recognition not only national but at the international level too. The interest of the language are watched among others by the following important societies:

TABLE 6.4

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Society</i>	<i>States of the Societies</i>
1.	Dogri Sanstha Jammu.	Recongnised and Registred.
2.	Dogri Mandal Jammu.	-do-
3.	Bandralta Sahit Mandal Ramnagar (Udhampur)	-do-
4.	Dogri Research Institute, Jammu	-do-

Besides these organizations a number of societies are engaged in the promotion of cultural activities, such as drama, folk dance, folk songs and the like in the entire Dogri speaking areas of the Jammu region.

Urdu was the official language during the reign of successive Rajas who ruled the state and it continues to be so even after the independence. The language, therefore, has a status of its own. The Urdu language is not the mother tongue of any section of population yet it enjoys considerable influence over the populace for being

the official language. It is interesting to note that the Urdu language took its birth in the Indian soil and soon got official recognition in almost every north Indian state (of prepartition days) and become the mother tongue of the large number of people. But soon after independence when Hindi was recognized as the national language it replaced Urdu in most of the newly carved out states based on regional language. Nevertheless in Jammu and Kashmir state it continued to enjoy the status of official language although as mentioned earlier it is not the mother tongue of any section of population of the state. The fact of Urdu being the official language gave encouragement to those who loved Urdu and dedicated themselves for the development and promotion of the language in the state. The following societies are actively engaged in these pursuits:

TABLE 6.5

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of society</i>	<i>Status of the society</i>
1.	Majles-E-Adab, Behrot-Rajouri	Recognised. and registered
2.	Krishan Chander Memorial Bazam-E-Adab Surankot	-do-
3.	Krishan Chander Memorial Club, Poonch.	-do-
4.	Iqbal Bazam-E-Adab Bhaderwah	-do-

Besides these organisations there are few other societies in Jammu. Whose endeavour is to promote the interest of Urdu language in the region. Ever since the State of

Jammu and Kashmir came under the Dogra rule what ever literary effort, were made the medium was Urdu or Persian--to some extent Punjabi poetry also existed. But so far as Hindi goes no worthwhile efforts were made for the development of the language due perhaps to the fact that there were no people owning the language and thus it was considered as an alien one. This state of affair existed till 1930 but by that time in other parts of the country Urdu and Hindi literature has crossed many limits. Tagore in Bengali, Iqbal in Urdu and Prem Chand in Hindi and Urdu had established their writ but the emergence of Hindi in the state was no where in sight. Of course some people of the state did write in Hindi after going outside the state but this did not help in the spread and development of Hindi in the state.

It was around 1935 that a movement started in the state for the development of Hindi language and literature. For the propagation and publication of Hindi two strong organizations- "Hindi Pracharm Sabha" and "Hindi Sahitya Mandal" came into being in Jammu. Whereas, the former organization was working for giving a place to the Hindu the little organization was putting in efforts to develop Hindi literature. At the same time many journals and newspaper were put out. Among these of special mention were 'Deepak', 'Viswada', 'Usha' and 'Bharti' etc. During this period although the quality literature was not written yet Keeping in view the evidence of eagerness that period

can be said as the golden period of Hindi language and literature in this region.

After this till 1950 there was a decline but it started picking up again when a number of poetic symposiums and literary functions were held.

It had been unfortunate that all the information regarding the development of different languages in the region is based partly on the verbal discussion with the officials and scholars of the respective languages working in the Academy of Art Culture and Languages at Jammu and partly on the various pamphlets published by the academy particularly its silver jubilee volume published in 1984-85. Hindi writers of this region could not find place in big Hindi publications published from outside the state. The literary creations of the writers of this region were in no case of inferior stuff but due to groupism, commercial compulsions and to some extent physical distance were largely responsible for not finding place in the big publications published from outside the state.

Academy of art, culture and languages of the state government provided the financial assistance to the authors for getting their works published since 1958. The condition of the writers not only of Hindi but of other languages too was pathetic, because no publisher was willing to publish their work and if per chance some one would do it would be without

paying any remuneration. The author on the contrary would remain obliged to the publisher. The Academy, therefore, did a commendable job by coming to aid in favour of such needy literary figures. However, there are a couple of important societies engaged in the propagation and development of the national language in Jammu. One is the Yauva Hindi Lakhak Sang while the other is Hindi Sahitya Mandal. Both these organizations are registered under societies act and are recognised by the cultural academy for its aid. However, there are many more smaller organizations located outside the Jammu city and are actively engaged to serve the cause of the Hindi language in the region.

Gojri is another important language which is spoken by Gujjars of the state who are spread throughout the length and breadth of the state. The development of the language is rather comparatively recent. An all state Gojri cultural Conference was held in Tagore Hall Srinagar which was inaugurated by Begum Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah and was chaired by Sh. Bashir Ahmed, the then Deputy Minister for Animal Husbandry. This conference was held on September 25-26, 1978. A number of writers read out their stories, poems and musical concerts were held. Similar conference was held at Abhinav Theatre Jammu on March 7-8, 1980 and again at Tagore Hall Srinagar on Oct. - 4-5, 1980. Mini Cultural programmes were held in Surankot, Mendahar, Thanna Mandi, Bandiput etc.

To have a proper and regular alphabets for writing Gojri languages, the linguistic experts developed an alphabet which was correct to nearest degree. With the help of different Gojri authors a regular linguistic survey was conducted and a good treasure of Gojri words was collected for the compilation of a Gojri dictionary. At present two important societies are actively engaged in the creation of Gojri literature and are concerned with the development of the Gojri language. These are Anjuman-Tariqi Gojri Adab and Anjuman Tariqi Gojri. Both these societies are Poonch based and are registered and recognised by the cultural academy.

Pahari as we shall see latter is another important language which is spoken by a large section of population living in the mountainous areas of the state. Like Gojri the first state level recognition to this Language was accorded through a state level 'Pahari' cultural conference which was held in Tagore Hall Srinagar on Oct. 27, 1978. This conference was also chaired by Begum Sheikh Mohammed Abdullaah. It was for the first time that four literary papers were read in the conference. These four research papers were (I) *Pahari Lok Adab Da Zindgi te Assar* (II) *Jammu Kashmir bich Pahari Zaban*, (III) *Pahari Lok Geetaan Da Pas Manzar* and (IV) *Pahari Zaban Diyaan Gallaan te unhaan Da Hal*. Besides the presentation of these four research papers a poetic symposium was also held. Similarly a mini one day conference was held in Govt.

Higher Secondary School Surankot on March 7, 1979 and many more such literary gatherings were organised by the lovers of the Pahari language. No periodicals or newspapers are being published either in Gojri or Pahari. The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and languages publishes a regular Magazine in which a section is devoted to all the Languages recognised by it. However, as society known as Bazam-E-Adab-Pahari is registered and recognised by the academy and is functioning to promote the interest of the language at Poonch in the Jammu region.

It will not be out of place to record the contribution made by the cultural academy for the development of different languages of the region. Academy recognised the best work in every language of the region State by incentives like prizes. Under scheme two prizes amounting to Rs. 1700 were given to the authors of the representative book of every language. The amount of the prize is not fixed for all times to come till 1983, the date up to which the information was made available to the author, the author, the academy had given prizes for the written in different languages as under:

1. Punjabi	-	22
2. Dogri	-	18
3. Hindi	-	20

4. Gojri	-	4
5. Urdu	-	26

Academy also provides financial assistance to the authors for getting their works published. The scheme is operative since 1965. It is important to note that academy provides financial help for about 95 per cent of the books published in different languages in the region 135 books in Dogri 64 books in Punjabi, 134 in Urdu, 91 in Hindi and two in Pahari language have already been published with the financial assistance of the academy.

To keep alive the cultural heritage of the region/state the academy started giving aids to such organizations that help in the development of music, dance, literature and language of the state. The tradition of dramas in the spoken language of the state/region was just not worth mentioning. It's because just a few dramas were written in Dogri before 1947. To keep alive the tradition of writing in various languages of the state certain prizes were initiated and quite a good number of dramas in Dogri, Panjabi, Urdu, Hindi and Pahari have already received such prizes. The academy is still continuing its activities to help the literary figures of the region to create new literature be it poetry, fiction or drama. The contributions of the academy are, therefore, singularly commendable.

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VII

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

IMPORTANT LANGUAGES, DIALECTS AND SCRIPTS

Of the various languages spoken in the Jammu region, Urdu, Kashmiri and Punjabi are the only three languages that have been included in the eighth schedule of the Constitution of India. But there are certain other languages which are equally important and are spoken by a large number of people, prominent and singularly important among them is the Dogri, language. Nevertheless, Gojri, Chibali, Pahari and Kashmiri are no less important if we take into consideration the number of people using them as a medium of conversation as well as for conveying their thoughts. Besides, as we shall see later, there are certain languages which are localised in certain valleys located in the middle Himalayan region of Jammu. Important among these are the Bhaderwahi, Kishtawari, and Padari associated with and spoken in respective areas after which they derive their names. The important factors in the development of these languages differently in different areas, are, however, the interaction of the people speaking different languages and coming from different places

supporting different cultural backgrounds. The interactions have not only been responsible for influencing the different languages but has also been able to influence the very culture of the people in some cases. Another important factor influencing the languages of the Jammu region is the location of the different regions in relation to other states of the Indian Union as well as Pakistan. Moreover, the geomorphological features such as mountain ranges spurs valleys and rivers are potent factors in influencing the language of the people living particularly in the hilly areas of Jammu region.

If for example we take Kathua districts of the Jammu region and see the influence of its location and geomorphological features on the language of the people we can very easily discern three important languages spoken in the district. The three regions are the outer plain region, Siwalik and the north of Siwaliks, the middle mountain region. Besides these three physical divisions Kathua district shares its border with the Himachal Pradesh in the east, with Punjab in South and Pakistan in the

South west. Towards the north is the middle Himalayan region of the district and towards north the boundaries of the district merge with the important inner valley like Bhaderwah of Doda District. Because of the close proximity of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab there is lot of scope for the interaction of the people of these places which has a great bearing in shaping the language of the Kathua district. Another important factor in the interaction of the people is the presence of Gujjars—a nomadic tribe which oscillates between the Punjab areas in the winters and pasture lands situated in the middle mountain regions of the Kathua district, in the summers. Although Gujjars speak Gojri a language which is quite close to Panjabi but not the Punjabi and yet Gojri is influenced by the Punjabi language due to the interaction between Punjabi and Gujri languages. Gujri which is influenced by the Punjabi itself is capable of influencing the language of the people living in the middle mountains. These people living in the middle mountain region of Kathua have a very close interaction with the people of Himachal Pradesh particularly with another nomadic tribe called Gaddis. Thus the people living in the middle mountain regions are subjected to the outside influence from Gujjars, Gaddis, people coming from Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. As a result of it the language of this region, which normally should have been Dogri, can conveniently be called as 'Pahari Dogri', which neither is pure Pahari

nor pure Dogri or even pure Punjabi. The Pahari-Dogri language on the northern side is influenced by the Bhaderwahi language and hence it emerges with it gradually and undiscernably. The important areas where this Pahari-Dogri is spoken include northern parts of Billawar, Basoli and Banni areas of the Kathua district. To the south of this region lies the Siwalik belt with dry climate, and commonly called as 'Kandi' region. It is in this Kandi region that we find that pure Dogri is the language of the inhabitants. This region which lies to the northern side of National Highway and is extending from Samba in the west to the Lakhanpur in the east is the home of Dogri language where the presence of sturdy Rajputs annulled the outside influence over their mother tongue i.e. the Dogri. Yet towards the southern side of this Siwalik belt we find a undulating plain area showing the influence of its interaction with Punjab, over the language they speak. The language is again neither pure Dogri nor Pure Punjabi but a language spoken here is more close to Punjabi than Dogri. For instance in this region the Dogri word 'Mayatte' for the centre is replaced by the word 'Gaba' which is a Punjabi word. Again the Dogri word 'Galaya' for saying has been replaced by Punjabi word 'akhya' in the region lying south of National Highway and sharing borders with Punjab be it Indian or Pakistani. Again the Dogri word 'Nuhara' is imperfectly replaced by the word 'Nihara' in the Kathua town region.

Still again we find that the Dogri word 'un' for them is successfully replaced by the Punjabi word 'unna' and the dogri word 'en' has been replaced by another Punjabi word 'Enna'.

We can, therefore, conveniently divide the Kathua district into three different regions speaking as many different languages. In the middle mountain region such as, Basoli, Banni and northern part of Billawar people interact with Bhaderwahi Kashmiri (Muslims particularly), Gojri from the Gujars coming from Punjab during summers only and the people of the Himachal Pradesh i.e. Chamba. The Dogri language is modified and people of this region speak a language which can conveniently be called as Pahari or Pahari Dogri to the south of this region including southern parts of Billawar, entire Siwalik belt of the district more commonly known as 'Kandi' or dry belt of the region extending from Samba to Lakhanpur particularly towards the north of national highway joining Jammu with Punjab, we find a region where people speak, irrespective of their caste, creed or religion, pure Dogri language. The areas lying to the south of the National Highway sharing its borders with Punjab and Pakistan, the Dogri language is influenced by Punjabi which assumes a form which is very close to the Punjabi rather than to Dogri.

The Jammu district which lies next to the Kathua district in the west presents somewhat different scenario

but the influence of adjoining Punjab is clearly visible in certain areas. The language of the Jammu district in general and city in particular seems to have been affected by the partition of the country in 1947. Although the influence of Punjabi language, even before the partition of the country, over the language of the Jammu cannot be denied yet it can be said with authority that Dogri was predominantly spoken by a vast majority of the people particularly in the Jammu city and its surrounding areas. But the partition of the country has effected certain major changes in composition of people speaking different languages coming from different directions or districts of Jammu and Kashmir State as well as some parts of Punjab. The people coming from Mirpur, Kotli, Pakistan, occupied portions of Poonch and Muzzafrabad districts and Sialkot and other parts of Punjab settled in different parts on the Jammu district have influenced the Dogri language that as mentioned earlier, was predominantly spoken in and around Jammu city. In the Jammu city itself the people coming from Mirpur, Kotli, etc. settled in Bakshi Nagar, Rehari Colony and new plot colonies in a polarised way. They created an environment from which they were uprooted. As a result of it they continue to speak Mirpuri language which in fact is not different from Punjabi except in accent, tone and stress on certain syllables. Since most of these people belong to the business community and have, therefore, contributed more than their share in

development of trade and commerce of Jammu. It is due to the influence of these people that we find Punjabi having replaced Dogri in the business deals be it with customer and trader or between the traders themselves. But a considerable section of population of Jammu who speak Punjabi as a link language to communicate with every individual in the market, speaks Dogri at home, for it is their mother tongue and they, therefore, feel comfortable in expression and communication to their thoughts.

The people coming from Poonch and Muzaffarabad district now under the illegal occupation of Pakistan have not been able to find suitable places to settle in the Jammu city. However, their concentration in certain refugee camps such as Simbal, Bhor and Gole-Gujral has allowed them not to be influenced by the outside interference insofar as their language is concerned. Hence their original Pahari (Poonchi and Muzaffrabadi) language is predominantly spoken in these camps. These people have fortunately been able to preserve their culture intact in these camps. But still when they step out of their camp areas they communicate, in most cases, even among themselves in Punjabi rather than their own Pahari, irrespective of caste or religion. Although the people coming from Pakistan occupied Poonch and Muzaffrabad districts have also settled in different areas of Jammu, (Ranbir Singh Pura; Bishnah and Jammu Tehsils) and Udhampur (Paoni, Bhar-

akh) districts as well as in areas like Sunderbani, Nowshera of Rajouri district and yet they have been able to maintain their own culture and language despite considerable influence of Punjabi and Dogri exerted on them. But it is a fact beyond any doubt that this Pahari language of Poonchi and Muzaffrabadi people have not been able to influence either the Dogri or the Punjabi languages wherever they came in contact with them rather they themselves seem to have been influenced, wherever, they are not settled in groups to resist the influence.

There is another group of refugees of 1947 coming from adjoining Sialkot District of Punjab (Pakistan). These migrants have not in majority of the cases, been granted the status of being the state subjects but continue to live and enjoy other facilities. The language of this groups of population is pure Punjabi. These people have also influenced the original Dogri language in the villages, wherever, they have settled. In the Jammu city and other urban areas of the Jammu region another group of people have influenced the language of the region to a considerable extent. This is the group of people which are skilled and semi-skilled labour force coming from adjoining Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur Districts of Punjab (Indian). Although not state subjects they form a recognisable group of people speaking pure Punjabi and influencing the original language of the region. These people are generally engaged in the

construction work in the region. They are good and skilled carpenters. Some of them seem to have settled here in Jammu permanently.

The original and traditional population of Jammu district spread over the areas like Kishanpur, Manwal, Plaura, and areas in and around Surinsar, Mansar and other areas like Majalta, Pargwal, Samba and its different mandis inhabited by Rajputs, are the areas where pure Dogri language is the language of the people. Similarly, people of the areas like Jindrah and portions of Akhnoor Tensils speak Dogri language. But if we move towards the southern side of National Highway from Vijaypur towards Ramgarh these areas again being close to Punjab speak pure Punjabi.

In the conclusion we can say that before partition Dogri was the only language of the people of Jammu district except in areas like Ranbir Singh Pura, Ramgarh, Vijaypur etc. where people had interaction with Punjabi language and were speaking Punjabi for being close to undivided Punjab. But now the language of Jammu city has undergone a considerable change. Punjabi is the link language between the people while Dogras speak Dogri and people from Mirpur, Kotli etc. speak Punjabi. However, in certain camps Pahari culture and language is still unimpaired.

In the Udhampur district, named after Raja Udhham Singh, the eldest

son of Gulab Singh, the founder of Dogra Dynasty in Jammu lies in outer hill region of Jammu province. The mountain ranges of moderate heights rising above the heights of 1122 metres influence the languages of people of the district. The religion seems to have a important effect on the languages of the people. The majority of nearly 72 per cent of the total population of the district consisting of the Hindus speak either the Dogri or the languages greatly influenced and shaped by the Dogri language. The Muslim population of the district making about 20 per cent of the population behaves rather erratically in the selection of the language. They for instance speak Dogri, Punjabi as the link language with other sections of the society but adopt Kashmiri and Pahari and Gojri as their mother tongue. The Sikh population which makes an insignificant of nearly one per cent of the total population of the state forms a business class with distinct language adaptations—they speak Pahari in their houses or we can say that Pahari seems to be their mother tongue but Punjabi is being used by them as a language to interact with other sections of the society.

If we consider the different areas and see the spatial variations in the spoken language of the people living therein then we find that in the Tikri and Lender areas of Udhampur Tehsil pure Dogri is the major language spoken by the people. Similarly in the Krimchi and Pancheri areas of the Udhampur tehsil Dogri is the major

language of the Hindu population while the Muslims speak Gojri.

In the Reasi tehsil of the Udhampur district Dogri, no doubt is the major language of the people yet Punjabi is the language of the people coming from the Pakistan occupied portions of the Poonch districts and settled particularly in the Pauni and Bharakh areas of the Rasi Tehsil. In the Katra, Rebta and Domel etc. areas the pure Dogra language is the language of the people. In the Ramnagar tehsil of the district Dogri, Gojri and Pahari are the three important languages spoken by the people. In the Ramnagar area pure Dogri is the language of the people while in Dudu and Basantgarh area of the district Gujjar population speak Gujri and Hindu migratory population called Gaddis speak Pahari but with a slang of their own. In the Gool and Gulabgarh areas, a different language of pure local origin developed out of the mixture of Pahari, Punjabi and Dogri is spoken by the people in the localised manner. This language is known as Khassali have certain peculiar words differentiating it from Pahari. In this language word 'Pani' for water has been replaced by the word 'Pohi' similarly word 'Etta' stands for word "Idder" of Punjabi meaning here. In the similar fashion word 'Gee' of Khassali means 'come' or say 'Etta Gee' would mean 'come here'. This 'Khassali' language is typically localised in and around the areas of Nala Shergarhi of Gool-Gulabgarh region of Udhampur district. This area being

nearer to the Kashmir valley has surely been influenced by the Kashmiri Muslim population had migrated to these areas in the distant past and they seem to have retained their language and culture. As a result of it, the Muslim of Gool-Gulabgarh are speaking Kashmiri language, whereas, in the Balmatkot areas of the region under discussion both Kashmiri and Khassali is spoken the people. While Kashmiri is the language of the Muslim population, Khassali is spoken by the Hindus. In the Tulibanna areas of the Gool region Muslims in majority of the cases speak Gojri rather than Kashmiri or any other language while the Hindus speak Pahari influenced predominantly by the Punjabi words. The Punjabi words used in the Pahari language are stressed differently. Say for example, "Akhan Dukhdia" of Punjabi meaning 'pain in eyes' pronounced as "Ankhian Dukhdian" in the Pahari language spoken in the Tulibanna area of Gool region. Similarly the Sikh population of this region, concentrated no doubt in certain localities (villages) only have a different medium of communication. The two most important villages—the Gota and the Sugga where the Sikh population is concentrated, the Punjabi seems to be their link language while Pahari this population. Latti and Sudh Mahadev areas of the Udhampur district has a mixed Dogri and Phari culture. The Dogri is the main language of the people of Latti and Sudh Mahadev region yet this Dogri is indicated to the Dogri of Udhampur, Tikri, Katra or even Reasi areas of the

district. The Dogri of these areas is greatly influenced by the Pahari language. Nevertheless, the religion also plays a role in deciding the language of the people. As far instance the Muslim population uses Kashmiri but can very well converse in Punjabi too. The Hindus speak both Pahari of Dogri—rather mixed.

In the Rajouri district the influence of the amalgamation of different cultures on the languages of the inhabitants seems to be very strong. This is an area where people coming from different cultures are interacting with the original inhabitants thereby influencing their language. Besides, the areal extent of the district both in length and breadth along with great variations in altitude shows a sufficient bearing on the languages. This district when shares its boundaries with the Anantnag District of Kashmir valley then it has imbibed the culture and language of the Kashmir valley at least to some extent. Again, after the partition of the country and occupation of some portions of Jammu and Kashmir State by Pakistan rendered some people homeless. These people who migrated to this side of ceasefire line have resettled in an irregular and asymmetrical manner. Some of these people have also been settled in Rajouri district thereby influencing the language and culture of the people belonging to the region originally and in turn were also influenced by them. This fact assumes greater significance in the areas, these people are settled forming a major group of population

in any one pocket of the district. For example, in areas like Rajal, Lambhri and Siot the migrants from Mirpur area of occupied Kashmir are the major group of resettlers. These people speak Mirpuri which is not in fact any separate language but Punjabi, which is close to Pothwari. Similarly, in Serimangal Dai and Beri Pattan areas migrant population speaks Mirpuri but the local population speak Poonchi—another language which is close to Pahari but deriving most of the words either from Punjabi or Sanskrit. In areas like Lam, Larhoka, Langar, Jhangarh and Bhawani etc. the original Sikh population speaks Punjabi while the local Hindu population speaks Poonchi. Similarly, in Nonial area where Sikh population shows a sign of concentration Poonchi and Pahari are the major language that are used by the people. Again in the areas like Kangri-Bhajwal and Thanda Pani etc. Lubana Sikh population speaks a language which neither is Punjabi nor Pahari but peculiar to Lubana Sikh population only. For example, word "Bakri" of Punjabi standing for a goat gets changed Bughri in the Lubani language.

In the upper reaches of the Rajouri district particularly in the areas like Dharal, Thanna Mandi and Pirhi etc. almost 100 per cent concentration of the Muslim population speak more than one language in day to day use. The section closer to the culture of the Kashmir valley speak Kashmiri while another section influenced by the local or original culture speak

either Punjabi or Poonchi. Punjabi in these areas is spoken but with a difference. Similarly, in the areas such as Dhangri, Muradpur and Manjhakot people of all shades speak Poonchi language. The Budhal tehsil of the Rajouri district is another area where different sections of population speak different languages depending upon their origin of their social and cultural background. The Hindus for example are the people who are aboriginal and, therefore, are not influenced by any other culture and hence speak Pahari which is influenced by nearby Poonchi language. The peculiar words of Poonch adopted by Pahari of Budhal areas are Taako (see), Assan (I shall come), Jassan (I shall go) etc. But the Muslim population which is influenced by the Kashmiri culture speak Kashmiri but can also converse easily in Pahari and Poonchi. However, the Gujjar population in Budhal areas are all Muslims but are not influenced by the Kashmiri culture and language and hence speak Gojri language which again is close to Punjabi or Pahari. In Gojri language the word 'Mera' for mine of Punjabi is changed to word 'Minna' and so on.

In the Poonch district the overwhelming population irrespective of caste or religion speak Poonchi language nonetheless, the Gojri and Kashmiri are the other language prevalent in Gujjar and the Kashmiri families migrated in quite distant past. It is surprising that even centuries after the migration from Kashmir to Poonch

the Kashmiris have not been able to identify themselves with the local Poonchi culture which is quite different from the Kashmiri culture showing thereby their strong ties with Kashmiri language and culture.

The Poonchi language which is very near to 'upbharansh' is quite different from Gojri and Pahari languages. But Muslim population being predominately Gujjars speak Gojri while the other section of the Muslims, as mentioned earlier coming from Kashmir, speak Kashmiri. Nevertheless, there is large section of Muslim population in the district who do not belong either to Gujjar or the Kashmiri groups. All such Muslims speak Poonchi. Right from Jarhanwali Gali to ceasefire line i.e. Harni, Gursai, Bhata Dhurian, Mendar, Golad, Balakot, Bhimbar Gali, commonly known as B.G., Mankot, Sakhi Maidan, Chatral etc. the Hindu and Sikh population speak Poonchi while Muslims are either Gujjars or Kashmiris and thus speak Gojri or Kashmiri respectively. In the areas such as Baflias, Sailan, Behram Gala and Chandimaharah almost all the population is of Kashmiri. Similarly, in Mandi, Lorrin, Gargarhian, Sabjian Muslim population of Kashmiri origin speak Kashmiri while other speak Poonchi. Drada and around Draba most of the population is of Hindus who speak Poonchi and the Muslim population is also influenced to adopt the Poonchi language.

As regards the scripts of these languages quite a lot of confusion

exists, the Dogri language which originally had its own Taqari or Takri scripts, but the present day writers, without any exception have deserted it in favour of Devnagri script for reasons which are hard to explain. But still it is believed that in their enthusiasm to popularise a language whose literary treasure was almost nought, the writer of post independence era thought it fit to choose a script with which the people were already familiar and could form prospective readers of the works in Dogri. The Takri script was neither known to Dogri writers whose mother tongue happened to be Dogri. Thus Takri being the original script for writing Dogri died its own death and nobody shed even crocodile tears on the occasion. But according to Prof. Subhash Bhardwaj the Dogri writers do face the problem in writing Dogri in Devnagri script as certain words of Dogri cannot be written in its original form with the help of Devnagri script which obviously is an alien script for the language. Although linguistic experts have tried to formulate a script for Gojri language but most of the writers in the language have adopted Persian (Urdu) script for expressing themselves in Gojri. Similarly Pahari language is written in more than one script depending upon the religion of the writer. A Muslim would prefer Persian, a Hindu Devnagri while a Sikh writer would like to write Pahari in the Gurmukhi script. The Urdu and Punjabi have their own well developed scripts—Persian and Gurmukhi respectively.

Again Bhaderwahi and Kistwari dialects are written in the Devnagri script. Almost all other dialects mentioned in the foregoing pages do not have any specific script. Nevertheless they are written either in Persian, Devnagri and Gurmukhi script depending again on the choice and perhaps the religion of the person who is writing.

LITERATURE-WELL-KNOWN LITERARY WORKS AND WELL - KNOWN AUTHORS

As has emerged from the foregoing discussion Dogri and Punjabi are the two important languages which are familiar in the entire Jammu region. This is sad to note that though Dogri was the mother tongue of large number of people of Jammu region and Dogras themselves have been the rulers of the Dogra land yet there was no literary activity in the Dogri language. However, we find inscriptions on stones and copper plates etc. which date even as far back as Third century B.C. Agreement letters and title deeds written in Dogri and that too in Takri script are still available but no literature worth the name was produced before the independence of the country. "Apathy of the elite and the educated class of Duggar towards their mother tongue during the 150 years before 1940 is responsible to a great extent for the absence of literary activity in Dogri and loss of whatever manuscripts in Dogri may have existed" "While on the other hand" ---, Maharaja Ranjeet Singh established his sovereignty over Jammu and

Kangra and many Punjabi officers and representative of the Lahore Government came to Dogra Country. Many Dogras joined Ranjeet Singh's forces and his court. Prominent among the latter were three Dogra brothers from Jammu: Gulab Singh, Dhyani Singh and Suchet Singh. They learnt to speak Punjabi and when Gulab Singh returned to Jammu as the Raja of Jammu he brought with him many Punjabi Officers whom he appointed to high positions..., there was heavy influx of Punjabis in various Govt. Departments and Schools in the State. There was hardly any district without a Punjabi Officer, Punjabi Teacher, Punjabi Clerk, Punjabi Patwari and Punjabi Police official... literary activity in Punjabi also came into vogue and some people in Jammu wrote poems in Punjabi." Thus we see that much before the independence literary activities in Punjabi were not only existed but were supported by the State as well while on the other hand signs of such activity in the Dogri language were absent. Nevertheless, after independence of the country Dogri intellectuals served their mother tongue much beyond the expectations and at present we see that as many as 19 writers in Dogri have the distinction of having received the Sahitya Academy awards—a prestigious national award for literary work of par excellence. In the following pages however, an attempt has been made to enlist the most important and distinguished writers of different languages and their important works. It has particularly been seen that all such literary

figures belong only to the Jammu region. The writers of Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu of these languages and belonging to either to Kashmir or Ladakh region have not been considered.

Punjabi: Giani Budh Singh well known public figure wrote quite a lot of literature but his three important works deserve special mention. These are (i) *Gujjahe Hireh*, (ii) *Chonveh Rattan* and (iii) *Paharhi Sugat*. Equally important is the work of Giani Avtar Singh 'Shaad' entitled "Paharhi Goonjan". 'Pahari Goonjan' is a rich work in Punjabi for Paharhi folklore, Harnam Singh Dukhiya is a prolific writer in Punjabi wrote more than a dozen books covering various aspect of life—from history to poetry and from story writing to travelogue. His most important works are "Lahu Bharian Yadan" "Paharhi Lok Jeevan" "Mujhaidan De Pinjar" and "Kachian Kandaan" etc.

From Man Singh 'Bhargav' begins a new era in Punjabi writings. His three important works are: *Thakan*, *Sanghararh* and *Vahndi Nadi Da Sach*. Man Singh Bhargav has emerged as a most successful poet of Punjabi in the Jammu region. A soft spoken unassuming but having sufficient insight into the present day human problems with a capacity to feel these human miseries have perhaps made him such a successful poet. Bhupinder Singh 'Soodan' another scholar of the Punjabi language of the region although died at a very young age but had left his imprints for centuries to come inso-

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Name of the work for which award was given</i>
1.	Sh. Narinder Khajuria	Neela Amber Kala Badal (Short Stories)
2.	Sh. Shrivats Vikal	Phull Bina Dali (Novel)
3.	Smt. Padama Sachdev	Meri Kavita Mere Geet (Poems)
4.	Sh. M.M. Sharma	Dud, Lahu, Zaher (Short Stories)
5.	Sh. Krishan Smailpuri	Mere Geet (Songs)
6.	Sh. Ram Nath Shastri	Badnami Di Chan (Short Stories)
7.	Sh. K. S. Madhukar	Meh Meleh Ra Janu (Poems)
8.	Sh. Nar Singh Dev Jamwal	Sanjhi Darti Bakhleh Mahnu (Novel)
9.	Sh. O.P.Sharma Sarthi	Nanga Rukh (Novel)
10.	Sh. Jitainder Udhamपुरi	Chetam De Suraj Mukhi (Poems)
11.	Sh. Kuvar Viyogi	Ghar (Poems)
12.	Sh. Desh Bandhu	Nutan Kaidi (Novel)
13.	Sh.Ved Rahi	Dogra. Aaleh (Short Stories)
14.	Sh. Shiv Ram Deep	Gamleh De Cactus (Gazals)
15.	Sh. Dinu Bhai Pant	Ayodhya (Drama)
16.	Sh. Om Goswamy	Sunneh Di Chrhi (Short Stories)
17.	Sh. Prakash Premi	Vehdan Dharti Di (Long Poems)
18.	Sh. Ram Lal Sharma	Ratu Da Chanan (Ghazals)
19.	Sh. Mohan Lal Spolia	Soodh Sammu Drain Di (Poems)

far as quality and the quantity of literary treasure he has left behind is concerned. His important works are "Lok Sur De Nal, Mere Rang Da Panni, Vanjareh and Gulmohar. Janak Singh "Kirti" (another young writer writes beautiful Punjabi poetry. His poetic attitude towards life make him a sweet person. His only publication 'Lakiran' is collection of his selected poems while "Saif Majuk Vich Sufi Ansh" is in the press. Similarly Dr. B. Singh Raina is a well-known story writer in Punjabi while O.P. Sharma 'Sarthi' is a Punjabi novelist. Surinder Singh Secrat' another young Punjabi writer has many works to his credit but "Khalah Vich Tangeh Haath," "Chhllan" are important piece of literature. Mohinder Singh 'Ranjoor's "Shish Mahal" is equally important. Similarly Kirpal Singh Kasali's *Meh Manfi Meh* is another milestone in region's Punjabi poetry. Ujjagar Singh 'Mehak' is another well-known name in the Punjabi word of the region. His works "Jhanan Den Kandeh," "Sajni," "Lashan Da Sagar" and "Navi Saver" are outstanding. Dr. Monojit is a poet, story writer and critic. He is again a prolific writer. And above all Dr. Davinder Singh who heads the Punjabi department of Jammu University has many works to his credit. He along with his team is guiding the research work in Punjabi language literature and culture. His interest mainly lies in literary criticism but he writes short stories and dramas with equal competence. Collection of his short stories

titles as "Chapa Ku Vajud" and a drama "Laal Peelah Lok" have obtained an honourable place in the Punjabi literature of the region. His books "Jammu Kashmir da Punjabi Sahit" and "Aad Kalin Punjabi Sahit" have been well received in the entire Punjabi world.

A lot of literary activity has now been generated in the Dogri language resulting in the awards to as many as 19 persons for their contribution to Dogri literature. It would be out of the scope of the present volume to write about every Dogri writer and thus in the above page Sahitya Academy Award winners and their works are being listed.

Besides the foregoing Sahitya academy award winners, there are number of other prominent writers of Dogri which deserve our mention. Among these outstanding writes Professor Champa Sharma who heads the Dogri departmental process of the language. Being the daughter of the soil she, along with her team of researchers, has done a commendable research on various aspect of the Dogri language. She is guiding the research work and giving the desired direction in the required manner which is necessary for the sustance and enrichment of the Dogri language and culture. Contributions made by her and her team of researcher would work guiding principles for the future generations.

Hindi outside the Hindi speaking regions of the country is generally considered to be a difficult language to learn. Jammu region is no exception to this rule. Nevertheless, being the national language, it enjoys love affection and respect, it deserves as a national language, of the people of the region. There are few writers whose writings are no less important than the writers of the Hindi region itself. The writers and their works are being described in the following discussion.

Among the earliest writers of the Hindi language in the Jammu region one can mention the name of Shankar Sharma "Pipasa" whose two volumes on poetry entitled "Do Chand" and "Seema Ka Panchi" are considered as worthwhile contribution in the literary circle of the Jammu region. Similarly Chander Bhan Joshi's poetic collection -"Dukh-Sukh" deserves mention. Professor Subhash Bhardwaj is by far the most important Hindi writer of the region. He writes poetry, essays, dramas short-stories etc. He is wellknown in the Hindi world of the region. His important publications are: "Tandav," "Rait Ka Sagar" (Poems), "Kavi Pipasu Jeevan aur Krititv" etc. He is the chief editor of the only Hindi daily--the 'Jammu and Kashmir Patrika'--of the region. Jitinder Udham-puri--a Sahitya Academy award winner of Dogri language also writes in Hindi. His Hindi poetry has been published in two volumes. Kulwant

Rai is an important Novel writer in Hindi, this region has produced. Similarly names of professor Dev Rattan Shastri Dr. Ashok Jairath, Ganga Dutt Shastri 'Vinod' and Om-Prakash Gupta deserve mention as important Hindi writers of the region. It is however, important to note that none of these writers have received any national or international awards yet their contributions to the Hindi literature is in no way mean.

Newspapers: The first ever newspaper published from Jammu was 'Ranbir.' The first issue of this paper came out of the press and was with the Jammu people on 24th June, 1924. This was allowed to be published by the then government after its Editor Mulk Raj Sarf tried his best to give a much needed newspaper to Jammu people. But today there are about 150 dailies, Bi-weeklies, weeklies and fortnightlies in the state as a whole. This speaks of the progress achieved by Journalism in the State. Nevertheless, the contributions made by Mulk Raj Saraf in the field of Journalism in this state can never be forgotten. He is popularly known as "Father of Journalism" in Jammu and Kashmir. The seeds of Journalism sown by him have now been able to grow perhaps to much beyond his own expectations. The following list of dailies, weeklies, bi-weeklies and fortnightlies give an insight into the progress made by Journalism in the Jammu region since 1924.

Newspapers and Editors of Jammu Region**Jammu Division****Editors****S/Shri/Smt.****Dailies.**

1. Ved Bhasin	Kashmir Times
2. S.D.Rohmetra	Excelsior
3. J.B.Chopra	Times of Cartoon
4. R.S.Mukat	Quami Awaz
5. Master Roshan Lal	Sach
6. Som Dutt Sharma	Ujala
7. Begum Imrana Samnani	Sandesh
8. Betab Jaipuri	Farogi Wattan
9. S.L.Razdan	Sharda
10. Babu Ram Gupta	Imarat
11. Maqbool Poonchi	Taskeen
12. Mohan Yawar	Raftar
13. Raj Kumar Gupta	Advice
14. R.L.Sarin	Pabandi
15. M.L.Sapolia	Shankh Dhun
16. V.K.Bali	Sadai Jamhoor
17. Sudesh Dalmotra	Tivera Yug
18. Harcharan Singh	Waqat
19. Prem Bakshi	Kashmir Post
20. Prof. Bhardwaj	J.K.Patrika

Bi-Weeklies

1. Hari Om Raina	Muntzar Babar-e-Hind
2. Ram Saroop	Haq
3. Harish Kaila	Gunjar

Weeklies

1. Asif Jan Sofi	Adlo Insaaf
2. Megh Raj Bali	Chingari
3. Sham Lal Sharma	Dogra Mandal
4. D.C.Dewan	Sher-i-Duggar
5. Prem Anand	Aas

6. A.K.Sadhotra	Amar
7. Kuldeep Sharma	Dhru Lok
8. Jatinder Dev	Coop Bulletin
9. Karan Singh	Salmati
10. Mangat Ram Bakshi	Siyasat
11. Sardar Singh	Dehati Samachar
12. Banarsi Dutt	Young Organiser
13. Prakash Maseeh	Jawahar Nigar
14. Rattan Singh	Didar
15. Kuldeep Kumar	Subha Jammu
16. G.D.Gupta	Azad
17. Ved Pal Deep	Jado-Jehad
18. S.Bhagal Singh	Pegami Nanak
19. Inder Jit Gupta	Kaam
20. O.P.Thakur	Chenab
21. Rakesh Gupta	Shiv Jyoti
22. P.L.Handa	Reformer
23. Ch. Ghulam Rasool	Himayat
24. B.A.Salaria	Albyan
25. Rashid Hassan	Zamire Khaliq
26. Jamshed Akhtar	Lazwal
27. S.Iqbal	Madr-e-Hind
28. Th. Anurodh Singh	Raj Saptah
29. R.L.Verma	Awami Daur
30. Des Raj Danish	Charbta Suraj
31. Nand Gopal Baba	Awami Lehar
32. Jugal Mahajan	Trikuta Express
33. P.R.Sharma	Minar-e-Haq
34. Nadim Kotalvi	Tarjmane Sehar
35. Madan Singh Sasan	Koh Himalya
36. Ajit Singh	Kashmir Transport
37. S.P.Malhotra	Builders
38. Raghbir Singh	Aman
39. Nanak Chand	Awami Adalat
40. Trilok Singh	Lok Awaz
41. Surjit Singh	Be Kafan Janaza
42. Sadhu Ram	Satayabani
43. Ved Gupta	Savera

44. Sardari Lal	Preet
45. Yog Raj Anand	Azad Hind
46. Ram Saran	Sher-i-Bharat
47. S.R.Sudhir	Nawai Duggar
48. Suresh Anadi	Quami Lehar
49. Luddan Singh	Nai Zindgi
50. Subash Langer	Nasiyat
51. Basant Singh	Panth Sevak
52. Kishori Lal	Baaz Gusbt.
53. Sushil Bali	Mera Khayal
54. Nirmal Kumar	Logon Ke Hakook
55. Yunus Shabnam	Sitaron Se Age
56. Jia Lal	Rajouri Times
57. B.L.Sharma	Poonch Voice
58. Mohan Lal	Awaze Jammu
59. Hem Raj	Nawai Jammu.
60. Devi Dass	Krishna
61. Ashok Kumar	Kashtkar
62. Ravi Prakash	Hindu Riwarz
63. Kulbhusan Sajgotra	Equinox
64. Kuldeep Sharma	Fresh Morning
65. P.B. Sharma	Glimpses of Future.

Fortnightlies

1. D. Mohinder Singh	Education News and Views.
2. Thakur Dass	Sachi Kalam

Jammu region is served by both television and radio programmes. The Jammu radio station, is a centre of Radio Kashmir, which is engaged in producing and broadcasting the programmes for the Jammu region. The Radio Kashmir's Jammu Centre, thus produces programmes in all the languages of the region such as Dogri, Punjabi, Gojri Pahari and Bhadarwahi etc. The entire region is served by this

centre of radio Kashmir which is directly controlled by Central Government i.e. Government of India through its department of information and broadcasting. Besides the regional languages the Radio Kashmir, Jammu also produces programmes in Urdu—the official languages of the state, Kashmiri and even in English. The Yuvwani channel of Radio Kashmir, Jammu is engaged in producing and broadcasting of programmes related and concerning to the young people of the region. Similarly programmes are specially designed to meet the requirements of different sections of the society. However, programmes concerning women, rural people and children are the special attraction of Radio Kashmir-Jammu. But it is hard to say that the service of this radio station to the entire region is adequate. There are certain areas in the interior of the region where it becomes difficult to receive the programmes even by best sets of radio or transistors. This, therefore, necessitates the establishment of at least more radio stations—one each at Bhadarwah/Kishtawar and Poonch. The Government of India has in principle agreed to do so but the things are yet to materialise. With the commissioning of these two radio stations the requirements of the entire region would be fully met with.

As regards television, the Jammu region is served by the relay stations. The Programmes of Door Darshan (the national television) are relayed by more than one station in the region. But the region is unable to watch

programmes in any of the regional language except in areas close to Punjab where programmes produced and relayed by Jullundhar and Amritsar Centres of Door Darshan can be received. It is in these areas which are close to Punjab that the people enjoy the privilege of watching the

programme in Punjabi and on certain occasions even in Dogri. Although the relay centres are serving the region very well yet there is an urgent need for a Local Television Centre at Jammu with the facilities to produce and relay programmes in the different languages of the region.

REFERENCES

1. Shivanath, *History of Dogri Literature*, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi-(1976) p. 60.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 58-59.

VIII

ECONOMIC LIFE

GENERAL SURVEY

There exists a great spatial variation in climate, physiography and various other attributes of natural environment in the Jammu region. The climate varies from sub-tropical to temperate and even Alpine type of climate is experienced in the higher altitudes of the region. Similarly, outer plains, Siwalik bills and the middle Himalayas bring considerable variation in the physiography of the region. We have already seen how these factors of nature effect changes in the language and social life, of the people in general and economic strength in particular.

Out of the total geographical area of 36395¹ sq. km. of the region only 372,000² hectares of land is available for cultivation. Thus only 10.22 per cent land is found suitable for the cultivation in the region. Even this meagre area under cultivation is not evenly distributed 34.75 per cent area of Jammu district and 5.04 per cent area of Doda district is available for cultivation. It is within these limits that the areas of other four districts of the region are available for culti-

vation. This variation in the availability of area for cultivation has a direct bearing on the economic life of the people for the entire region depends heavily on agriculture.

The region is not rich in the mineral resources and whatever minerals are available hardly it provide desired amount of raw material for sustaining industrial growth. The hilly and a mountainous districts of Rajouri, Udhampur and Poonch are industrially most backward districts of the region, resulting in the and contributing to the poor economic life style of the people. The availability of gypsum and lime stone in a quantities sufficient to support the cement industry in the region has not been able to attract the attention of the authorities to do the needful. An industrial activity has of late begun especially in the district of Jammu and Kathua particularly because of their location in the outer plains where road and rail links with other parts of the country are well developed and maintained. Nevertheless the role played by the industrial sector in the economic life of the people of the

region as a whole may conveniently be called as very humble. Forests are by far the most important natural resources of the region. The people do find some employment in the exploitation of major and minor forest products of the region. The lumbering for example generates employment opportunities to the people but the over exploitation of the forests in the past have completed the state forest corporation to operate in go-slow manner. This has become an indispensable policy matter in view of fast degradation of forests of the state. Thus even this avenue of employment has shrunk and opportunity withdrawn. Resultantly effecting the economic life of the people rather negatively.

Animal rearing is yet another field in which a large chunk of Gujar and Bakarwal Communities are involved. These communities move with their herds of animals to the pastures and meadows in the summer as these are situated at higher altitudes while they move back to the plains or the lower levels during the summers. Gujjars are generally not very rich but Bakkarwals enjoy comparative higher economic status and yet no other section of society can claim to benefit from the animal rearing activities. Nevertheless some people do keep some poultry units particularly in the outer plains and that too in and around urban centres where market is easily available for their products. No worthwhile dairy farming activity can found

in entire region. Nonetheless people in the village do keep cows and buffaloes and also generate some surplus milk which is marketed too. All these animals rearing activities do influence the economic life of the people of the region but rather on selective bases as there is no concerted effort either on the parts of the individuals, society or even the government to develop and exploit animal resource for the better economic life.

Thus on the whole the economic life of the people except those who are either employed in Government Service or even in industrial sector is very poor. People in the hilly districts where agricultural land is not enough to satisfy their daily needs and where employment opportunities in forestry sector has already been reduced with no other alternative of available people generally are very poor. Their diet is poor which can give them only poor health which takes the initiative of hard working from the resulting in still poor economic life.

STANDARD OF LIVING

It is in the context of the foregoing discussion that we have to make an attempt to understand the standard of living of the people. Standard of living can precisely be defined as the degree to which the needs and wants of group of people are satisfied or alternatively the conditions which people live or would like to live. Obviously, therefore, we would like to consider certain indicators which

would give us a peep inside the living conditions of the people. There are innumerable such indicators but for the present work the indicators selected are:

- (a) Number of job seekers on employment exchanging register
- (b) Unemployment of educated youth.
- (c) Workers engaged in non-agricultural enterprises per lakh of population.
- (d) Area covered per school,
- (e) Availability of Health care,
- (f) Rural drinking water facilities,
- (g) Average population coverage per post office,
- (h) Road length per hundred sq. kms of area,

- (i) Road per lakh of population,
- (j) Rural electrification.

Although many more and highly significant indicators for determining the degree to which the needs and wants of population are satisfied are there yet their consideration would be the rather too technical and beyond the scope of the present work.

Number of job seekers on the employment exchange registers would indicate the degree to which the people of the region are unemployed and being out of job clearly indicates that their needs and wants are not properly satisfied. The Table 8.1 gives an indication in this direction.

The analysis of Table 8.1 would indicate that although the number of job seekers who have registered them-

TABLE 8.1

Number of Job Seekers on Employment Exchange Register and Number of Unemployed Educated Youth

Sl. No.	District	No. on live register per lakh of population			Average	No. of Educated unemployment per lakh of population
		1982	1983	1984		
1.	Jammu	2074	2341	2631	2349	1359
2.	Kathua	897	685	543	708	1871
3.	Udhampur	2094	2003	1595	1897	1689
4.	Doda	335	1046	862	748	3836
5.	Rajouri	650	745	234	543	2127
6.	Poonch	451	472	574	499	1026

selves with the employment exchange in the Jammu district have consistently increased and yet the number of educated employment per lakh of population in the district is one of the lowest. The inferences that can be drawn is that Jammu being the winter capital city of the State provide employment opportunities to its educated youth in many sectors of the economy the newly emerging industrial complex at both at Gangyal and Bari Brahman have provided jobs to many young seekers. This obviously must result in better life style. In the Poonch district almost similar situation exists but at a lower degree. The number of job seekers per lakh of population have increased over the period but the number of educated unemployment per lakh of population is the lowest (1026). This, however, does not mean that employment problem is not so acute but it should be seen in the light of the fact that the education in this hilly,

and backward district located near the line of actual control is rather a rare commodity. The spread of education being less and hence less number of educated unemployed per lakh of population. It is only in the Rajouri district that the number of job seekers on live register per lakh of population decreased during 1982 to 1984 but the higher number of educated unemployed negates this factor. If we look at the Table 8.1 the situation in other districts would become clear and an assessment of living standards of the people of the region can be gauged to some extent.

Industrialization is considered to be an important and potent indicator for raising the standard of living in any region of the world. Industrially developed nations have as less as about 10 per cent of their labour forced engaged in the agriculture sector while in the third world countries this

TABLE 8.2

Number of Non-agricultural Enterprises and Workers Engaged in them Per Lakh of Population

Sl. No.	District	No. of enterprises (1980)	No. of enterprises per lakh of population	No. of workers in enterprises	Workers per lakh population
1.	Jammu	24525	2674	59213	6457
2.	Kathua	11642	3252	27290	7623
3.	Udhampur	13829	3142	27673	7623
4.	Doda	13389	3223	23424	5639
5.	Rajouri	6799	2329	12062	4132
6.	Poonch	5659	2500	10616	4876

percentage increases to between 70 and 80. Thus if we look at Table 8.2 we would be able to understand variation in the number of workers engaged in non-agricultural enterprises from where we could again try to find out our required information regarding the well being of the people of the region.

The highest concentration of workers in Non-Agricultural enterprises is in the Kathua district which is followed by Jammu, Udhampur, Doda, Poonch, and Rajouri in the descending order. Thus if we consider number of workers engaged in non-agricultural enterprises as an indicator of development and as also the higher standard of living then Kathua district stands out at number one followed by Jammu, Udhampur etc. in that order.

Availability of educational institutions is important for spreading the education among the masses. And educated people surely have a better life style than the uneducated lot. Therefore, the availability of schools and area covered by each school would become an important indicator for the standard of living. Table 8.3 gives the details about it.

If we look at the Table 8.1 we would find that job seekers and numbered of educated enemployed youth is one of the lowest in the district of Poonch and Table 8.3 indicates that the area covered by per school in this district is 3.30 sq. km. which is followed only

by Jammu district. But the number of students going to high and higher secondary schools is the highest in the Poonch district. This is despite the fact that Poonch is one of the hilly districts of the region. Consequently, therefore, if numbers going to schools are the highest and job seekers are the lowest, we can easily conclude that the people of the region have, comparatively, low degree of unemployment and higher number of school going students indicates to the better living conditions in the Poonch district. Working on the similar lines Jammu district occupies the second position. In the Rajouri district the number of school going students is comparatively higher than any other (except Poonch and Jammu) district of the region but correspondingly higher degree of educated unemployment perhaps, makes a difference. Situation in Kathua, Udhampur and Doda district is rather grim. In case of the Doda district where one school covers an area of 9.49 sq. kms. and where number of school going children is one of the lowest and degree of educated unemployment is one of the highest gives an inkling towards a low standard of living of the people of the district if these parameters are any indication in this direction.

It is interesting to note that number of persons attended by a medical institution is the highest in the Poonch district (3719) followed by Jammu (3579). The Rajouri, Udhampur and the Doda districts being hilly do have sparse population but the number of

TABLE 8.3
Area Covered by Per School and Number of Students Per Lakh of Population

S. No.	District	Area	(in sq. km.)	Per School	No. of std. up to high/Hr. Secondary Classes per lakh of population
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1984-85
1.	Jammu	2.66	2.64	2.64	19774
2.	Kathua	3.60	3.60	3.57	17081
3.	Udhampur	5.0	4.97	4.95	14051
4.	Doda	9.58	9.53	9.49	13257
5.	Rajouri	3.42	3.39	3.38	18192
6.	Poonch	3.40	3.31	3.30	19776

Note: All the data given in all the Tables 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, and 8.7, are obtained from the 'Indicators of Regional Development' 1983-84
Pub. By Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir.

medical institution seem very inadequate like the other districts. The fact becomes clear when we see that in the Udhampur district one medical institution attends to as many as 3222 persons while the corresponding figures for Rajouri and Doda respectively are 3153 and 2257 during 1984-85.

Most of the area of the outer plains is Kandi (dry) area of the region. The availability of drinking water has been the age old problem of the region. During the pre-independence era and even during the post-independence period people used to utilise the dirty water stored in the ponds even for drinking purposes. But some remedial measures taken by the successive popular governments over the years have surely changed the conditions towards the betterment. Nevertheless, much needs to be done in this

direction. Among the measures the government has taken to provide clean drinking water to the population living in the villages are to harness the water flowing in the perennial riverets in the hilly regions, erecting tubewells in the plain areas and even providing drinking water transported on the water tankers, wherever, possible. Nonetheless, the problem still exists causing hardships to many people. The Table 8.4 gives the percentage of villages covered by rural drinking water facility. It is important to mention that the acute shortage of drinking water is and was felt in the Kandi areas of Kathua, Jammu and Udhampur districts. The hilly districts of the Poonch, Rajouri, Doa and parts of Udhampur districts had and still have, although severity being less. The springs and perennial riverets are the sources from where villages could get

TABLE 8.4

Average Area and Average Population Coverage Per Post Office

S. No.	District	Area per sq. km.		Post Office		Population per post Office	
		1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1.	Jammu	18.11	16.39	19.39	5800	5387	5529
2.	Kathua	21.38	23.46	23.25	3142	3546	3616
3.	Udhampur	29.35	29.55	29.74	3087	3195	3306
4.	Doda	99.92	98.24	96.62	3788	3805	3824
5.	Rajouri	23.27	21.92	21.74	2850	2773	2842
6.	Poonch	38.93	38.05	38.05	5490	5512	5663

this their requirements, with difficulty. But in the case of Kandi (dry) areas the water was not at all available.

Keeping the foregoing discussion into consideration and analysing Table 8.4 we can conclude that much have been done to supply the drinking water to the areas suffering from acute shortage of it. The Kathua district one of the problem district had only 58.40 per cent of its villages covered by water supply in 1982-83 got the facility extended to nearly three-fourth of its villages by 1984-85. Similarly in the Jammu district much progress seems to have been made during the same period. As mentioned earlier the hilly district face this problem only partially hence the percentage of villages covered by the drinking water facility gives the indication that the people are comfortable insofar as drinking water facility is concerned. Means of transport and communication are very important for maintaining the standard of living. And further it is

the individual consumption which makes the standard of living either high or low. Similarly, easy and speedy communication and travel is essential for a better living standard. Although the transport is slated to be discussed in the coming sections of this chapter yet it is important to mention in a passing way about these facilities in the region. Post office and telephones plays a significant role in maintaining the lines of communication it is therefore, important to assess the functioning of these two important means of communications. An analysis of Tables 8.5 and 8.6 would provide us the details.

Analysis of the Table 8.5 shows certain conflicting results. If we take area served by a post office then Doda District is least served for it is in this district that highest area of 96.62 sq. kms was being served by a single post office in 1984-85. Next in order are Poonch (38.05) Udhampur (29.74) Kathua (23.25) Rajouri (21.74) and the

TABLE 8.5

Average Area and Population Coverage Per Connection of Telephone

S. No.	District	Area Per Connection (area in sq kms.)			Per Connection Coverage of Population		
		1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1.	Jammu	0.58	0.53	0.50	186	174	170
2.	Kathua	9.43	8.78	7.73	1386	1327	1202
3.	Udhampur	9.83	8.75	8.68	1033	946	965
4.	Doda	54.89	67.97	51.50	2080	2632	3038
5.	Rajouri	10.91	11.85	9.33	1336	1499	1220
6.	Poonch	10.94	10.40	9.30	1543	1506	1384

Jammu with 19.39 sq kms per post office has the maximum post office in relation to the area covered by them. But Doda being a hilly district has a sparse population and therefore, when we take the service rendered by a post office to the population as a criterion of development which ultimately decides the levels of well being then Doda district with 3824 persons per post office seems better served than Poonch (5663) and Jammu (5529). All other districts of the region such as Kathua (3616) Udhampur (3306) and Rajouri (2842) are still better placed from postal service point of view.

If we take area covered or even the number of people served by a telephone connection in the region then Jammu district seems far ahead of any other district of the region. This is because of its being the winter capital city and surrounded by agriculturally rich suburbs like Ranbir Singh-pura, Bishali, and Samba. In the Udhampur district situation is better than any other district where 965 people were serviced by telephone

connection in 1984-85. The Doda district being hilly and extensive possesses least telephone facilities both in respect of population per connection (2038) and the area covered by it, being as high as 51.05 sq kms. in 1984-85, All other districts fall within these limits set by Doda the lowest and Jammu the highest.

Role of the transport is very significant in deciding the consumption level of the individuals. Road length per lakh of population is the highest in the Kathua district. It stands at 157.20 kms per lakhs population followed by Doda with 140.50 kms, Jammu 122.48 kms, Udhampur 109.52 kms, Rajouri 106.13 kms and Poonch with 52.97 kms of road length per lakh of population stands at the lowest end.

Availability and consumption of electricity is a yet another important factor to measure the quality of life enjoyed by the individuals. Almost all the urban and sub-urbans centres of the region already stand electrified, if it is only in the field of rural

TABLE 87
Rural Electrification

S.No. District	Percentage of Villages Electrified		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1. Jammu	84.48	88.62	92.76
2. Kathua	86.94	90.11	91.60
3. Udhampur	65.48	73.10	78.93
4. Doda	47.09	61.96	69.48
5. Rajouri	57.88	64.40	67.39
6. Poonch	76.58	80.38	84.81

electrification that region has not been able to achieve cent per cent success. Nevertheless, it is significant to note that no district of the region has less than two third of its villages electrified. The percentage of electrified village varies both in space and time as is made clear by Table 8.7. The table shows that although Kathua district enjoyed the first rank in respect of rural electrification in 1982-83 and was able to maintain its supremacy even in the year 1983-84 but was overtaken by Jammu district by a margin of 1.16 per cent of more villages under electrification in the following year. Udhampur district stands next to Kathua district in 1984-85 with 78.93 per cent of its villages electrified. Doda district seems to have made considerable progress in the rural electrification when we find that its 47.09 per cent villages were electrified in 1982-83 but only after two years this percentage rose to 69.48. In the Rajouri district only 67.39 per cent villages are electrified. The Doda district made better progress in comparison with the Rajouri district insofar as rural electrification is concerned. The Poonch district with 84.81 per cent village having been electrified in 1984-85 enjoys a comfortable position in this respect.

Taking the foregoing discussion into consideration and making an attempt in the absence of any computer help and without putting the little available data into the rigours of statistical analysis it can be said in a general way that Jammu and Kathua district enjoy comparatively better

living conditions than any of the other district of the region. We can place Udhampur, Rajouri, and Poonch to the second place in the hierarchy but Doda district perhaps offers lowest level of living conditions in the Jammu region as a whole.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Jammu and Kashmir State depends heavily on trade and commerce. With the increase in the facilities of transport and means of communications the trade of the state have registered a considerable change. The extension of railway line up to Jammu in the early seventies have given a fillip to the trade activities by facilitating the traders of both private and public sectors. Extension in the road length have brought many areas within the approach of the traders and people of these areas have benefitted to considerable extent. Movements of certain goods from the interior of hilly areas was practically very difficult but with the extension of roads it has become an easy job. Fruits and many other agricultural products which enjoyed no commercial value in the interior areas of this mountainous state now can find not only appropriate market but also remunerative prices. This has resulted in the increase in the income of the people. The items like honey and ghee, fruits like apricot and the like used to get much less price than they get at present only because of the development of transportation system. All this has contributed towards the increase in trade and commerce. Table 8.8 gives the details

of the important goods that have been exported from the state. Among these goods there are certain goods which are exclusive to the Jammu region, such as gums and resin, anardana, animals, tea, paints and varnish etc. However, the data regarding the goods exported exclusively from Jammu region has not been made available to us by any agency.

The Table 8.8 shows the nature of goods exported from the state. It also records the temporal variations in the goods exported. Decrease in the export of Anar dana which is a very important ingredient in the prepara-

tion of sauce (chatni) at home particularly during the summers, can be attributed to the degradation of the shrub *Punica granatum* from which Anar dana is obtained and which grows wild throughout the Jammu region. Agricultural seed forms are doing quite well in the production of seed of some varieties of crops. The export of agricultural seeds have registered a marginal increase in 1985-86 over the exports of 1974-75 and yet the nadier was attained in 1984-85. In the export of the fresh fruit Jammu region has little to contribute as compared to the Kashmir province but Jammu region contributed

Goods Exported from the State (000 Qtls)

Goods	1974-75	1980-81	1984-85	1985-86
Anardana	2.9	5.6	1.04	1.10
Agriculture seeds	2.2	1.23	2.92	2.56
Bones	10.2	5.82	2.34	1.49
Drugs and Medicines	11.2	2.59	3.33	3.63
Honey	0.4	0.01	0.45	0.07
Fibers	17.0	12.34	6.98	7.37
Cotton	1.9	5.1	7.88	7.82
Dry Fruit	67.4	96.48	98.61	92.22
Fresh Fruit	1428.7	3821.70	4555.63	5424.75
Grains & Pulses	7.3	43.23	64.94	78.47
Gums & Rosins	76.1	87.0	75.23	77.15
Hides, Skins & Shoes	37.3	46.27	30.90	28.81
Metals	50.7	157.63	146.47	165.04
Paints & Varnish	0.2	0.53	1.53	1.84
Glass & glass ware	21.1	15.61	25.52	21.99
Silks	0.7	0.78	0.70	0.11
Wood & Timber	666.4	1264.29	2014.31	1934.58
Tea	0.19	0.06	0.11	0.13
Animals	277.4	132.46	-	-

Note: Data of the table obtained from Jammu & Kashmir Year Book and Who's Who, 1987, p. 60 see IV.

substantially in the export of dry fruits (walnut and walnut kernals). Export of grains and pulses has increased in ample measures and shows greater degree of temporal variations from 7.3 thousands quintals in 1974-75 to 78.47 quintals in 1985-86. Gums and Resins are produced in the Jammu region only as the chirpine *Pinus roxbughii* does not all grow in Kashmir or Ladakh's provinces due to silvicultural reasons. The exports of gums and resins have shown fluctuations over the period but it can be said that the export has been more or less consis-

tant. Hides, skins and boxes are the animal products and enjoy respectable position in the state's export. The major share is of the Jammu region contributes significantly in the export of wood and timber. Export of metals also show considerable increase from 1974-75 to 1985-86. Other items of export show considerable variations.

Jammu and Kashmir is essentially a deficit state. It therefore, import more than it exports and as a result of bit there is longer list of goods imported into the states is evident from Table 8.9.

TABLE 8.9
Goods Imported in to the State (000 Qtls)

Goods	1974-75	1980-81	1984-85	1985-86
Apparal	3.5	3.47	3.79	6.60
Asphalt	110.8	210.6	32.72	53.84
Cotton and its manufactures	165.2	225.45	213.38	274.70
Crockery all sorts	12.5	20.64	22.03	24.78
Coal and coke	702.7	577.20	344.41	414.45
Drugs and Medicines	254.5	517.39	104.27	109.96
Paint & Varnish	30.2	17.84	29.40	21.82
Electric goods	35.7	90.66	48.56	41.54
Fiber goods	18.6	17.39	16.20	15.83
Fodder	113.7	367.09	360.84	431.78
Fruits & Vegetables	391.0	781.83	755.86	863.70
Grains & Pulses	2238.1	2691.92	3468.83	2424.90
Iron & its manufactures	633.0	1235.89	981.06	1062.07
Minerals	1282.3	2169.20	3147.15	2532.55
Oils	284.5	516.05	661.90	714.99
Tea	49.9	58.40	54.20	59.03
Salt	260.2	187.14	100.62	88.95
Sugar	430.4	478.02	518.03	566.25
Military goods	619.8	611.68	767.96	837.28
Fuel, Petrol etc. (000 litres)	70298.0	147104.0	138517.0	137348.0
Living Animals (Nos.)	740006	932772	1027292	1153803
Vehicles (Nos)	976	1403	3021	3216

The list of the goods imported in the state at present is vast and it is possible only to include very important items for the consideration here. It is important to see that import of apparel have increased over the years but in case of hydrocarbons mixture used particularly as surfacing material for road (asphalt) the imports have rather decreased. The import of cotton and its manufactures and crockery show a upward trend in the import list but import of coal is being replaced by cooking gas in the house holds. Fodder has registered a sufficient increase in its imports. Jammu as well as Kashmir regions are not self-sufficient in the production of vegetables we therefore see sufficient increase in the import of vegetable and fruits. In case of fruits only those fruits are imported which cannot be cultivated in the state due to agro-climatic reasons. Import of grains have maintained an upward trend as is also the case with iron and its manufactures, minerals, oils, tea, sugar and many more items of daily consumption. Imports of fuels and petrol have also shown an upward trend in the import list. As mentioned many goods that are imported into the state but could not find place in Table 8.9 are very important. These goods include leather liquors, spare-motor parts, oil and seeds. Rubber as tyre goods, silk, soap, cosmetics, housing goods species, tobacco, and sport goods, etc. All these items occupy important places in the list of daily needed goods. There is lot of scope for the expansion of this list further. Similarly the num-

ber of items that are exported from the state show ample scope for further expansion. This is largely due to the fast industrial development and increase both in number and quantity of industrial end products. The fruit production has not been taken up in Jammu region as seriously as it has been taken in the Kashmir Valley. Nevertheless, initiatives are now being taken to increase the area under fruit cultivation in the Jammu region. This is a major area where we can expect to increase the export from the region in future. In addition to it there are number of other minor forest products which can find ready market in rest of the country. To sum up it can be said that a great scope exists in the sphere of trade and commerce but imports are bound to excel the exports at least for some time more to come.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Movement of men and materials from one place to another can be regarded as transportation. Among the man's activities since the very beginning of human history, transport has played a significant role in the developmental activities. Thus for the development of both social and economic of any region in a balanced way depends very much on the development of lines of transport and communication. In the absence of transportation many items which can satisfy human needs lose their value where they are in surplus and are thus abandoned. But on the other hand the

very same items becomes scarce and becomes too costly to be within the reach of most of the people. Thus transportation helps in the areas where its availability is not possible in the absence of transportation maintaining a balance and check on the prices of the commodities. Existence of heap and easy means of Transportation is a prerequisite for the exploitation of natural resources. This fact assumes greater significance in case of mineral and forest resources which are generally used away from the source of their existence and hence need transportation.

Topography of any region plays a significant role in the development of the means of transportation. The development of transportation system in

a plain region is not only easy but cheap also. But in hilly and mountainous state like Jammu and Kashmir it is not only difficult to construct a road but is still more arduous to maintain it. But the strategic location of the state requires the movement of men and material unhindered and uninterrupted in order to defend the borders of the country.

Although road transport is more important in the Jammu and Kashmir state yet a railway line connects Jammu with Pathankot and thus the whole country. The total length of the operational railway line in Jammu region is about 80 kilometres to which a few kilometers would be added on the completion of Jammu-Udhampur railway line.

TABLE 8.10

Road Length Maintained by Various Agencies

<i>S.No. Departments</i>		<i>Year</i>	<i>Road length in kilometres Surface of Unsuraced</i>		<i>Total</i>
1.	Public Works Department (P.W.D.)	1986-87	7959	2480	10439
2.	Forest Department	1986-87	60	1045	1105
3.	B.R.O. (Border Road Organisation)	1985-86			
	a) Project Beacon		998	333	1331
	b) Project Sampark		1088	417	1505
	c) Project Himank		242	649	891
	Total		2328	1399	3727
4.	Irrigation and Flood Control Department	1985-86	104	679	783
5.	Electric & Power Department	1985-86	7	33	40
Grand Total			10458	5636	16094

Jammu and Kashmir government has always attached much importance to the efficient as well spread network of communication and transport lines. According to the data available Rs. 13020 lakh or 9 per cent of total 7 plan outlay was approved to be spent on the development and construction of roads to facilitate transportation. Thinking road net work as the important infrastructural facility for the developmental activities, the state government paid considerable attention for the development of road from the beginning of the plan period. Out of the projected road length requirement of 33000 kilometers in 1950-51 the state had only 2003 kilometres. But the situation stands substantially changed now when we see that Public Works Department (P.W.D.) of the State Government maintains over 10,000 kilometres of road length alone and if to this we add the road lengths maintained by agencies like, M.E.S. (Military Engineering Service), forests and many others then the total road length would be close to 16000 kilometres. The able 8.10 would indicate the road lengths maintained by different agencies.

The construction of roads and their maintenance is a continuous process. At the end of 1985-86, the total road length maintained by Public Works Department was 10266 kms. To which another 173 kms. were added during 1986-87 raising the total length to 10439. Similarly the surfaced road length increased from 7808 kms. to 7959 km over the same period. But it

is curious to note that the metalled road length could not even be maintained at its existing level. A reduction in the metalled road length from 1460 kms in 1985-86 to 1362 kms in 1986-87 was rather discouraging. However, all other categories of the roads registered addition in their length with varying degrees.

There exists a greater degree of spatial variation in the road lengths spread over different districts of the state in general and Jammu region in particular. The physical conditions are more favourable for the construction of roads in Kashmir valley rather than in Jammu region. It is only a small tract of outer plains of Jammu region where topographic conditions are comparatively easy but the rest of the division is either hilly or mountainous, thereby creating unfavourable conditions both for construction and maintenance of the road. Nevertheless, Jammu district maintains largest road length (1345 kms) followed by Doda and Kathua respectively. Udhampur maintains less than half of the road length maintained by Jammu district while situation in Poonch and Rajouri can be considered as rather precarious insofar as road lengths of these districts are concerned (Table 8.11).

87 per cent of the total road length of the Jammu district is surfaced and only 13 per cent remains as unsurfaced roads in the district. And in the surfaced road length black trapped category surpasses all other categories (84.0 per cent) of the

TABLE 8.11
Road Length Maintained by State P.W.D. Ending March 1987

District	Black Topped	Metalled	Shingled	Total surfaced	Fair weather	Jeepable	Total unsurfaced	Total surfaced & unsurfaced
Jammu	982	29	158	1169	181	4	185	1354
Kathua	349	30	109	488	145	-	145	633
Udhampur	321	64	69	364	213	20	233	597
Doda	193	156	68	417	319	30	349	766
Rajouri	93	31	58	182	202	-	202	384
Poonch	57	12	15	84	51	-	51	135
Total	1812	322	477	2704	1111	54	1165	3869

surfaced road length. In the Kathua district 77 per cent road length is surfaced with 71.5 per cent of this surfaced road length in the black topped category, 6.12 per cent in metalled and 22.23 per cent in the shingled categories. It is only in the Doda district that 37.41 per cent of total surfaced roads is metalled. In the Poonch district situation is not very encouraging the total road length both surfaced and unsurfaced is as low as 135 kms. It is due to the very hilly character of the district that this sort of situation exists. Out of this 62.22 per cent of the length is surfaced and remaining stands as unsurfaced. But out of the totals surfaced road length, 67.85 per cent is black topped, 14.28 per cent is metalled and 17.85 per cent remains as shingled road. The situations in Udhampur and Rajouri districts are not much different from the other districts of the Jammu region (Table 8.11).

The road length which stood at 9.82 kms. per 100 sq. kms. in 1984-85 increased to 1013. kms. in 1985-86 only to occupy a better status of 10.30 kms in 1986-87 in the state as a whole. Nevertheless, the situation in the Jammu region is much more complex when we see road length per 100 sq kms. of area varies from 6.55 kms. (Doda) to 43.73 kms. (Jammu) in 1986-87, corresponding figures for other districts for 1986-87 are 23.88 kms. in Kathua, 14.60 kms in Rajouri, 13.12 kms. in Udhampur and 8.06 kms. in Poonch (Table 8.12). All the districts of the region have registered an increase in the road length per 100 sq. km of area in 1986-87 as compared to 1985-86 except of course the Kathua district where the figures show downward trend due perhaps to the transfer of certain road lengths.

Analysis of the Table 8.12 reveals that maximum road length per 100

TABLE 8.12

Road Length Per 100 sq. kms. of Area (P.W.D.) Roads

District	Road length per 100 sq kms. of area		
	1985-86	1986-87	Total inc.
Jammu	43.33	43.72	+0.39
Kathua	25.05	23.88	-1.17
Udhampur	12.77	13.12	+0.35
Doda	6.35	6.55	+0.20
Rajouri	14.30	14.60	+0.30
Poonch	8.06	6.06	nil.

sq kms. of area exists in Jammu district as mentioned earlier followed by Kathua Rajouri, Udhampur, Poonch and the Doda district. Further all the districts have shown an increase in the road lengths in 1986-87 as compared to 1985-86 but for Kathua for reasons mentioned earlier. Maximum increase is seen in the Jammu district (0.35 kms. per 100 sq. km. of area) followed by Udhampur (0.35). Rajouri (0.30) and the Doda (0.20)- It is in that Poonch district that no change has occurred during the period under discussion.

It is interesting to note that there has been a tremendous increase in the number of vehicles in the state. There has been an increase of 368.16 per cent in the number of vehicles from 1974-75 (19098) to 1986-87 (70313). The number of vehicles per 100 kms. of road length has increased from 261 to 674 during the same period, thereby registering an increase of only 258.82

per cent. Interestingly while in 1974-75 one vehicle was serving as many as 268.09 persons on an average, the figure dropped to 99.20 persons in 1986-87 (Table 8.13). On the other hand if we take the total road length and compare it with the vehicles operating on these roads a different picture emerges. In 1974-75 there were only 261 vehicles per 100 kms. of road length, it increased to 420 vehicles in 1980-81, 604 vehicles in 1985-86 and 674 vehicles in 1986-87. It can thus be concluded that the number of vehicles is increasing at a faster rate than both the road length and human population.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES

The development of a region can be measured from the levels of industrial development. And the development of the industrial sector depends largely on the availability of raw materials and human resources.

TABLE 8.13

Number of Vehicles in the State

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of vehicles (Public and Private) excluding tractors and trailers</i>	<i>No. of vehicles 100 kms. of road length</i>	<i>per lakh of population</i>
1974-75	19098	261	373
1980-81	34480	420	577
1984-85	55614	558	839
1985-86	62032	604	912
1986-87	70313	674	1008

Industrial growth can be achieved if among the raw materials mineral resources are available in plenty with sufficient power (fuels) to process the minerals. In the absence of sufficient reserves of the minerals Jammu and Kashmir State continues to be industrially less developed and, therefore, to have an agricultural economy. There are very few industries in the state. This is because of the absence of basic minerals such as iron ore, coal, and the like. It is due to these reasons that "the primary sector continues to contribute 45 percent at current prices to the SDP, (State Domestic Products) whereas, the secondary sector manufacturing industries, contribute 20 per cent at the constant prices and 15 per cent at the current prices".

The large scale industries are altogether absent from the state. Jammu and Kashmir State Industries limited — a public sector undertaking runs a few medium scale industries. No industry in the central sector exists in the region, however, there exist two industries in the Kashmir region in the central sector. Nevertheless the small scale sector which is mostly unorganised is responsible for creating bulk of industrial activity in the state. Khadi and village industries, handicrafts and handlooms are the major sector of the Jammu and Kashmir industries.

As mentioned, Jammu and Kashmir Industries Ltd. is the most important industrial corporation in the state and

manages nearly 17 industrial units in the public sector. Out of these 4 resin and turpentine factories on joinery mill, one sports factory and one sole leather plant are located in the Jammu region. All the units of the corporation collectively provided employment to 4264 out of which 3037 were in the workers category while 1227 were categorised as staff members during the year 1986-87. This corporation showed an increase of Rs. 336.39 lakh during 1986-87 as compared to its production of 1985-86. The annual production during 1986-87 was to the tune of Rs. 1988.33 lakh. The corporation was able to market its produce for Rs. 1892.25 lakhs again registering an increase of Rs. 295.67 lakhs over its records of previous year. Similarly Jammu and Kashmir Minerals Ltd. runs 12 Units which are engaged in the extraction and processing of minerals. But only 10 units of the organisation were in operation and generated an employment for 2520 workers in 1986-87 out of which 1745 were a daily wagers and the rest (775) were the regular employees. All these workers were able to generate a production of Rs. 297.01 lakhs which was less by Rs.95.49 lakhs compared to the previous year i.e. 1985-86.

A number of schemes have been taken up by the company to insert improvement in the working of extraction and processing units. For instance Metka Coal Mines are being provided with flame proof mining equipment along with the extension in the track line, crushers, loaders and

air compressors are made available to gypsum mines at Assar in the Doda District.

Handicrafts and handlooms is yet another sector of our industrial activity which generates a substantial employment opportunities particularly in the rural areas. In order to train the youth in these crafts, the government has taken up an impressive programme. According to the statistics available sixty thousand young men and women in 1985-86 were trained in 459 training institutions set up by the government. Besides another 55 thousands were trained by All India Handicrafts Board and Handicraft/Handloom export corporation in this state. The human resource so trained

either get employment or organise industrial co-operative societies to increase the industrial production. By the end of March 1987 there existed 878 such industrial co-operative societies with a membership of over 23,000. The various types of incentives are also provided to help these young trained lot to expand this rural based sector. The handicraft industry was able to give a massive production of 110 crores during 1986-87 registering an increase of Rs.5 crore over the preceeding year, i.e., 1985-86. Similarly, after recording an increase of Rs. 3.16 crores in the exports over the previous years record, the handicraft industry was able to export goods worth 43.16 crores in 1986-87.

TABLE 8.14

Production of State Public Sector Units

Industry/description	Magnitude		
	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
I. J & K Industries Ltd.			
i) No. of Units	16	17	17
ii) Annual Production (Rs. in lakhs)	1419.01	1652.04	1988.43
iii) Average daily employment	4132	4286	4264
II. J & K Minerals			
i) No. of Units	10	9	12
ii) Annual Production (Rs. in lakhs)	275.43	392.50	297.01
iii) Average daily Employment	1751	3038	2520.
III. J & K Handicraft Corporation			
i) No. of Units	2	2	2
ii) Annual Production (Rs. in lakhs)	19.32	1598	18.66
iii) Average daily employment	630	630	630

Khadi and village industries is yet another important section of the industrial culture of the state. The various units of this sector produced goods worth Rs. 2408 lakh during 1986-87 and provided employment to nearly 35 thousand artisans during the same period.

Industrial activity in the state as well as in Jammu region has assumed greater significance in the small scale industrial sector. There are number of incentives provided to the small scale sector which include among other things factory accommodation, in industrial areas, with all service and infrastructural facilities in a concentrated manner. In short, all concessions and facilities relating to finance, tax relief etc. are provided to this sector to generate employment potential and the expansion of the industry to augment the production. During the year 1986-87, 2718 new small scale industrial units were registered which raised the total number of such units to 21238. As a result of it the employment for 8860 persons was generated during the year raising the cumulative employment to 93,681 in the small scale industrial

sector. Out of these new units which were added during 1986-87, 330 units were added to hosiery and garments group. Metal products group attracted 259 units whereas 247 units were added to food products group while the rest were shared by all other industrial groups. Alternatively 551 units were set up in Jammu district and 246 in the Kathua district. The other districts of the Jammu region and other parts of the state shared the rest.

In the conclusion it can be said about the industries and industrial growth of the State that although the state lacks in raw materials and other infrastructural facilities yet it has reached a stage where it can be said that industrialisation can be said to have begun. Development of roads and extension of railways into the state has given a new life to the developmental processes in the state. These developments proved to be conclusive to the developments of industries in the region. Nevertheless, it cannot be said that ultimate has been achieved. There is lot of scope for the future developments. And efforts in that direction are required to continue.

REFERENCES

1. Data is taken from *Digest of Statistics*, Pub. by Jammu and Kashmir Government, 1991-82 p. 2.
2. Data obtained from the Jammu and Kashmir year book and Who's Who 1987, p. 3 Section IV.
3. Data of the table obtained from Jammu & Kashmir year book and Who's Who, 1987, p. 60 See IV.
4. All the data being quoted here is obtained from Economic Review of Jammu & Kashmir 1986-87.
5. Economic Review of Jammu and Kashmir 1986-87. p. 43.

IX

PLACES OF INTEREST

If Kashmir can be considered as a paradise on the earth Jammu region may be taken as an area of bliss or a paragon of nature. Jammu region, in fact, is an area of great natural charm and yet is unexposed to the people outside it due perhaps to the political compulsions of the state. Region's sparkling rivers, silvery springs and streams, lofty mountains and above all dense and luxuriant forest make it an irresistibly pleasing and delightful area which can allure people to visit the different places of interest it possesses. Nonetheless, the efforts made by various departments, such as Department of Gardens and Parks of the State Government and Tourist Development Corporation add glamour to these beautiful sites. The Department of Gardens and Parks has initiated a move to improve and maintain the existing gardens and also to develop gardens and parks at suitable places so that the tourists can be attracted to this earthly paradise. The development of picnic spots in the region is being looked after by more than one governmental agencies. Another aspect which deserves special mention in relation to the places

of interest, found in the region, is the preservation of natural environment to make the natural beauty of these places everlasting. It is in the light of these facts that the most important places of interest located in the Jammu region are being introduced in the following pages.

JAMMU

Jammu, the winter capital city of the state and most important urban centre of the region, is connected with rest of India by air, rail and road. It is connected with Delhi by Indian Airlines Services. Similarly Indian Airlines also operates its services between Jammu, Chandigarh, Amritsar and Srinagar. Jammu is also connected with rest of country by railways. Manali an important hill station of Himachal Pradesh is connected by road with Jammu and is distanced at 428 km. Similarly Chandigarh is 436 km. Delhi 586 km. and Amritsar 243 km. from Jammu by road.

Jammu is also known as the city of Temples. There are innumerable temples constructed by individuals as well as small or larger groups of

people at different places in the city. The Raghunath temple is by far the most important temple of the city. The work on the Ram Temple started as early as 1935 by Maharaja Gulab Singh the then ruler of Jammu. The golden leaves decorate the interior of the temple. It is believed that the temple hosts about 8400 thousand idols of different Hindu gods and dieties. Ranbireshwar is important temple which is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The height of the temple facinates every individual. A large crystal lingam which is fixed on a stone slab is the greatest attraction for the visitors.

Jammu also hosts a number of other places of interest, caves and shrines. Amar Mahal palace which accommodates a museum is built in the style of a French Chateau. It gives a beautiful look which has been provided to it by the river Tawi which flows far below it. As mentioned earlier the museum contains valueables of royal family and beautiful valuable and excellent from artistic point of views the Pahari miniatures. Similar miniature art paintings are housed in the Dogra Art Gallery which is situated near the new Secretariat building. Pir Kho is another important place of interest in Jammu city. It is situated on the circular road and in fact is a group of caves which are believed to have a underground connection with many kilometres of natural passage way. It is believed that this passage way leads one out of the country but nobody as yet has been able to

explore the length of these underground tracks.

There are certain Muslims shrines which deserve the position among the places of interest in Jammu. Important among these shrines is the Ziarat situated near Gole Market at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. Similarly, the Ziarat of Pir Mitha, Khankah Sharif, Pir Rushan Shahwali Sahib are equally important. The Mazhar of Baba Budan Shah which is located near the civil air port at Jammu is singularly important. The Mazhar is visited by every section of society to get the blessings of the Baba Budan Shah Sahib.

Gurudwara of Maharani Chand Kuran is a historical monument situated on the bank of river Tawi. It is here that one of the wives of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh spent her last days of her life and ultimately passed away. The Samadhi of Maharani is located nearby this Gurudwara.

If one wants to visit the best picturesque place in Jammu then his choice should fall on the recreational spot of Bagh-i-Bahu. The Bagh-i-Bahu garden can be taken as a gift of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah the then Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir State, to the people of Jammu. Developed on the hill with Bahu fort in the background the garden possesses an excellent look. The garden was presented to the people of Jammu by Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah on 26th August, 1981. Thus Bagh-i-Bahu is the most

recent addition to the places of interest in Jammu city. The Kali Temple inside the Bahu fort is another attraction to the people. The local people throng this temple every Tuesday and Sundays.

VAISHNO DEVI

Vaishno Devi is the most important shrine of Hindus situated at about 62 km. from Jammu. The people from all over the country visit this cave temple in large numbers every year. To reach the shrine the bus service is available from Jammu up to Katra only which is 48 km. from the winter capital of the state. The pilgrims have to trek a distance of about 14 km. from Katra to reach the Vaishno Devi Temple. This fourteen km. distance is a steep climb on the hill but the way is suitably tiled to facilitate the pilgrims. The importance of the shrine can be gauged from the number of visitors visiting it. According to the statistics available with the Tourist Department about 3000 people visited the shrine during 1950-51 but this number rose to amazing 13,97,000 in 1986. There has, however, been a consistent increase in the number of people visiting shrine since 1950-51 onwards. Midway between Katra and cave temple lies another important temple at Adhkuwari. It was here at this spot that Vaishno Devi killed a demon Bhairon, who was chasing her. This temple is, therefore, dedicated to Bhairon. Bhairon was absolved of his sins before he died. A visit to this shrine is obligatory to every pilgrim

to complete his or her Yatra. In order to regularise and remove the hardships to the pilgrims every pilgrim is required to get a pass at Katra before one sets for trekking the distance to the cave temple. The entire route from Katra to temple is electrified. There is sufficient arrangement for the stay of pilgrims at various places. The flow of the pilgrims, however, subsides during the winter when the Trikuta peaks are covered by snow yet it can be said that pilgrims visit the shrine throughout the years.

At the shrine the pilgrims are made to walk through a narrow path in order to get to the sanctum sanctorum where the idols of the goddess Mahakali, Mahalakshmi and Mahasaraswati are installed.

Akhnoor is another important place of interest in the Jammu region. It is here that river Chenab debauches into the plains and flows in a peaceful manner. Akhnoor town situated on the right bank of the river presents many spots for the tourists' interest. It is 32 km. towards the west of Jammu city and frequent bus service is available to reach Akhnoor. During the summers when the temperatures in Jammu rise above 40°C people visit the area to spend their day on the bank of river Chenab and enjoy not only the scenic beauty of the place but also the coolness of the river bank.

Mansar lake is by far the most important picnic spot in the Jammu district.

Situated about 80 km. from Jammu the mansar lake is connected by an easily available bus service. The temples of different Hindu gods and goddesses surrounding the lake add to its glamour. The lake area looks beautiful for it is surrounded by the forest covered hills. The chir forest which are most frequently found forest species in and around lake, although not in good health but presents a picturesque scenery. A tourist Bungalow situated on the bank of the lake provides accommodation for those who want to stay there. A sanctuary for wild animals particularly for deers further adds beauty to the already beautiful place. Deers and other wild animals roaming about in the protected areas but visible to the visitor compounds the charm of the visit to this lake site.

Surinsar lake is another similar picturesque spot in the district. This lake is only 42 km. away from Jammu and is connected by a regular bus service. Tourist Bungalow is there to provide accommodation to the tourist.

Patnitoo is a peaceful resort in the midst of deodar and kail forests. The magnificent deodar trees outnumbering the kail present a rare beauty on the top of the ridge. This resort is 112 km. away from Jammu on national highway connecting Jammu with Srinagar. It is situated at a height of 2024 metres above mean sea level. The lush green undulating ground presents a lovely picnic spot. The place is

most frequently visited by people of Jammu and surrounding towns during the summers to get respite from the scorching heat of Jammu plains. In the winters the people of the Jammu region where snow does not fall in winter, visit patnitop to see the silvery cotton falling from the skies (snow). Tourist coming from outside the state are the third important group to enjoy the natural charm of the Patnitop. There exist an elaborate arrangement for the accommodation of the tourist. A tourist Bungalow is supported by number of huts which are always occupied by the tourist. In the event of non availability of Bungalow or hut accommodation, the tourist development corporation provides tents with other facilities to the tourist. There is a youth hostel which provides accommodation to the groups of youth coming from different places and sponsored by their respective youth organisations.

Sanasar, only about 17 km. away from Patnitop but away from National Highway is another beautiful site in the region. The Sanasar is located at a height of 2079 metres. The spot is surrounded by thick conifer forests with deodar and kail trees dominating. It is a replica of Patnitop in this respect. It is comparatively quieter than Patnitop and thus has an edge over Patnitop. The cool breeze when whispers in the ears tells nothing but about the natural charm of the place. Coolness of the site makes you to forget for a moment about the high temperatures prevailing in the Jammu

plains. Sprawling meadows and the beautiful conifer forests have given Sanasar a name of "Gulmarg of Jammu." The accommodation to the tourists is provided by the tourist department in the tourists huts and Bungalows.

Sudhmahadev is a place of religious importance situated at a distance of 120 km. from Jammu. Its height above mean sea level is measured to be 120 metre. The people go to worship the trident and a mace which is supposed to be that of Bhima — one of the five Pandava brothers. The worship is performed on the full moon night of July-August every year. The place is of great natural charm and possesses a desired attraction to the tourists and devotees alike. There are pilgrim shelters where accommodation is always available. The very approach to Sudhmahadev is through the thick chir forests which present a beautiful look to the natural environment. The chir forest add to the natural beauty of the place.

Purmandal is another religious place which deserves mentions. It is situated at a distance of 39 km. from Jammu and is connected with it by frequent bus services. It is situated on the banks of river Devika and according to the belief most of the 'Lingams' which have automatically arisen following the rise of Devika are found in and around Purmandal. It is believed that Purmandal used to be a seat of learning in the distant part. Because of these attributes Purman-

dal is also called "Chotta Kashi." It, therefore, is a significant place from religious point of view which accommodates many temples. It is surrounded by the Siwalik hills and possesses a great natural beauty. The accommodation like Sudhmahadev is available in the shelters built for the pilgrims.

Shiv Khorhi. This religious place of Hindus is situated about 125 km. from Jammu and nearly 50 km. from Reasi town. The place is associated with Lord Shiva. Big cave temple hosts a Shiv Lingam which is worshiped by the devotees. A special gathering takes on every Shivratri day which falls in Feb-March every year. The place is connected by a well managed bus service both from Jammu and Reasi.

SUKRALA DEVI AND OTHER TEMPLES

The Sukrala Devi temple located in Kathua district of the Jammu region is about 10 km. from Billawar - a tehsil headquarter of the district. The temple is situated at village Sukrala. Similarly Airwan Shiv Temple at village Airwan, Bala Sundri Temple at village Parole in Tehsil Kathua, Billawar Shiv Temple in Billawar tehsil, Moha-Dera Shiv Temple at Village Plathi in tehsil Basoli, Goddess (Mata) temple at village Bheya are few other important temples of the Kathua district. All these temples are by and large connected by bus service both from Kathua and Jammu. All these temples attract a large number of people on religious festivals and fairs every year.

In the Kathua district a large number of places enjoy historical and archaeological significance. The district has many famous and fascinating forts and ancient buildings which can be of significant interest to visitors in general and visitors having archaeological interests in particular. All these forts were built by Rajput rulers of the past times. The forts which enjoy the status of monuments include Lakhenpur, Jasrota fort and Chak Suba fort in Hira nagar tehsil, Thein fort and Basantpur fort also in Kathua tehsil and situated at Thein and Basantpur respectively. Similarly there are number of towers and palaces at Billawar and Ramkote which are of great historical importance. Again the forts and numerous palaces at Basoli are worth seen. It is important to note that all these forts and palaces were decorated with wall paintings which are peculiar to these hilly principalities. The miniature paintings found on the delapidated walls of palaces of Jasrota principality are said to belong to Jasrota school of painting.

A vast unexplored area from tourists' view point exists in the Poonch district of the region. The places of religious importance and possessing natural beauty exist far and wide in the entire district. Numerous meadows, water falls and places of great natural charm are so numerous in the district that it becomes difficult to describe them all. However, an attempt is being made in the following pages to give an account of these places in brief.

Nangali Sahib is a religious place of immense importance for Sikhs. However, both Hindus and Muslims adore the place equally well. It is believed that Sant Pheru Singh was the first person to have been sent by Guru Gobind Singh the tenth Sikh Guru to propagate the Sikh religion in the mountainous area of Jammu and Kashmir. Sant Baba Pheru Singh carried on his mission and in his line of succession Sant Bhai Mela Singh Sahib established this Gurudwara for the purpose Sant Pheru Singh stood for.

The Gurudwara is situated on the bank of river Drugli. It is a picturesque place where people go to get blessings of the Guru. It is about 4 km. away from Poonch on the road linking Poonch with Jammu. A regular bus service is available to reach the place. Baisakhi — the birth day of Khalsa is celebrated every year on 13th of April.

Nandi Shool water fall is a beautiful water fall situated 10 to 12 km. from Lorrain valley — a most beautiful valley, in the Poonch district. The bus service is available from Poonch to Lorrain but the remaining distance has to be trekked. After crossing the ridge near Nandi Shool one enters the Kashmir valley. There are numerous beautiful sprawling meadows in this region among them Tosh Maidan is the most extensive and fascinating one.

Buddha Amarnath is yet another important Hindu religious place. The bus service from Poonch is available only

upto Saiklu from where a distance of about 10 km. has to be treked to reach the temple of Buddha Amarnath. The temple is devoted to Lord Shiva and a religious mela (Congregation) is organised every year on full night somewhere in August (on Rakhi day). The mela coincides with the famous Amarnath Yatra of Kashmir.

The other beautiful places having natural charm in the Poonch district include Baflias, Noori Chamb Nandansar, and Katora Sar etc. Baflias is twelve km. away from Surankot and is connected by regular bus service. Baflias is a beautiful spot of great interest which gives pleasure to the sight. From Baflias one can move to Behramfala—another place of enchantment. One feels delighted at this spot. Although Baflias is connected by road with Behramgala yet it gives immense pleasure if one treks the distance to enjoy and appreciate the excellence of the nature.

Noori Chamb is the most beautiful waterfall of the region. It is here that Emperor Jahangir used to camp for few days on his way to valley. A place of unparalleled natural charm is, therefore, named after Noorjehan the famous queen of Jahangir. It is said that Noorjehan used to take her bath under this waterfall which was decorated with the mirrors on the required places. Mirrors have now, by and large been removed by the people but one can conjecture the enjoyment the royal couple could have derived at this place. The water which makes this fall

comes from equally beautiful lakes of Nandansar and Katorasar. These lakes of crystal clear waters are still unknown to the tourist for more than one reason. In the first place these places are not connected by any road links and secondly Tourist Development Corporation and the State Government has not taken any initiative to encourage tourist to plan the trekking to these places of great natural charm. And above all there are no arrangements for making a stay comfortable at these heights where snow covered peaks of the Himalayas always make the climatic conditions cool. It is only the efforts made by certain individuals that these areas are explored and are visited by curious tourist and trekers.

In the Rajouri district too there are many places of interest but singularly important is Shahdra Sharif. This religious place of Muslims has sprung around the grave yard of a Muslim saint Pir Ghulam Shah. Pir Ghulam Shah was a great religious leader who had attained great spiritual height. It is, therefore, that Annual fare are organised to remember the life of this great saint. Tatta Panni (Hot water) near Kalakot a Tehsil headquarters of Rajouri district is famous for hot sulphur springs. The people come to this place for taking bath in the hot waters of the spring to cure their skin diseases.

Besides all these places of interest spread over length and breadth of the state there are number of stations

located on the National Highway connecting Jammu with Srinagar. These locations can surely as be taken gift as of nature with the outstanding quality that may give pleasure to one's sight. Let us consider Kud in the first place. Kud is situated at 106 km. away from Jammu and enjoys a height of 1738 metres. It is that beautiful spot from where Patnitop is only 6 km. away. The cool breeze, cold waters and scenic beauty can compel any person to break his journey at Kud where accommodation is available both in the tourists Bungalow and in the private hotels.

Like Kud Batote is another and yet more picturesque place situated on the National highway. It is 113 km. from Jammu, and is situated at 1560 metres above sea level. Besides being a place of great natural charm it is also considered as a health resort. It is a town situated at a locationally advantageous position and thus forms an important business centre in the middle Himalayas. It has access to Jammu, Srinagar for being on the national highway but it also connects these two capital cities of the state with important towns of Doda, Bhaderwah and Kishtawar. And thus a business centre. Fruit gardens, particularly apple gardens add to the beauty and commerce of the town. Accommodation is available both in the tourist Bungalow and privately owned hotels. In short it can be said that Batote is a lovely place where one is lured by the natural beauty of the place to break his journey for a day or two.

Ramban and Banihal are other two places where people generally break their journey to enjoy the natural beauty. The accommodation at both these places is available both in the tourist Bungalows and private hotels. Ramban is 148 km. away from Jammu. If one wants to enjoy a bird's eye view of the Kashmir Valley he should break his journey at Banihal.

In addition, to the places of interest discussed in the foregoing pages there are innumerable others which have neither been developed nor advertised for the benefit of the tourists visiting the state. The emphasis of the State Government to project Kashmir valley as the major centre of tourist interest is perhaps the outcome of its political compulsions. Nevertheless, Jammu region is no less important from tourists point of view.

The natural beauty of Bhaderwah and its tributary valleys, Kishtway valley, areas of Poonch and Rajouri districts have few parallels in the world but are not as yet exposed to the tourists due both to the lack of facilities and the will of the authorities Bhaderwah is a very small valley identical in climatic conditions to the Kashmir surrounded on all the sides by lofty mountains invariably covered by conifer forests dominating among them are deodar and blue pine (kail) species. Niru — a tributary of Chenab which joins it at Doda adds to the glamour to the valley. It is situated at more than 1700 metres above sea level. Chinta and Jai are the two

most important tributary valleys of the Bhaderwah valley. A silvery brook flowing through the Chinta valley can fascinate anybody. The flush green meadows of Jai can compel even a non-believer to believe in the creative superiority of the God. The Chinta valley is connected with the Bhaderwah town by a bus service but no proper facilities are available for any one to stay either at Chinta or Jai, Similarly in the Bhaderwah region areas like Bhalesha deserve to be developed and brought on the tourist map of the country. If these areas are developed and facilities provided, the tourist traffic might find new areas to visit which possess no less natural charm than Gulmarg, Pahalgam or other places of the valley. Similarly Kishtwar valley is yet another area of great natural charm. It is connected with

Jammu by a National Highway. The importance of the town has been enhanced because of the location of Dul-Husti, Hydro Electric Project. The project is under construction at present. Areas like Gandow and its surroundings and many more such areas of the region wait their turn for the development.

The description of the places of interest cannot be complete without the mention of Sarthal meadows. A worth seen place in the middle Himalayas. The Sarthal is about 30 km. either from Bhaderwah in the Doda district or from Banni in the Kathua district. A P.W.D. hut can provide a much needed place for stay. The bus service is available up to Bhaderwah or Banni and the distance beyond these stations have to be covered on foot.

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Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



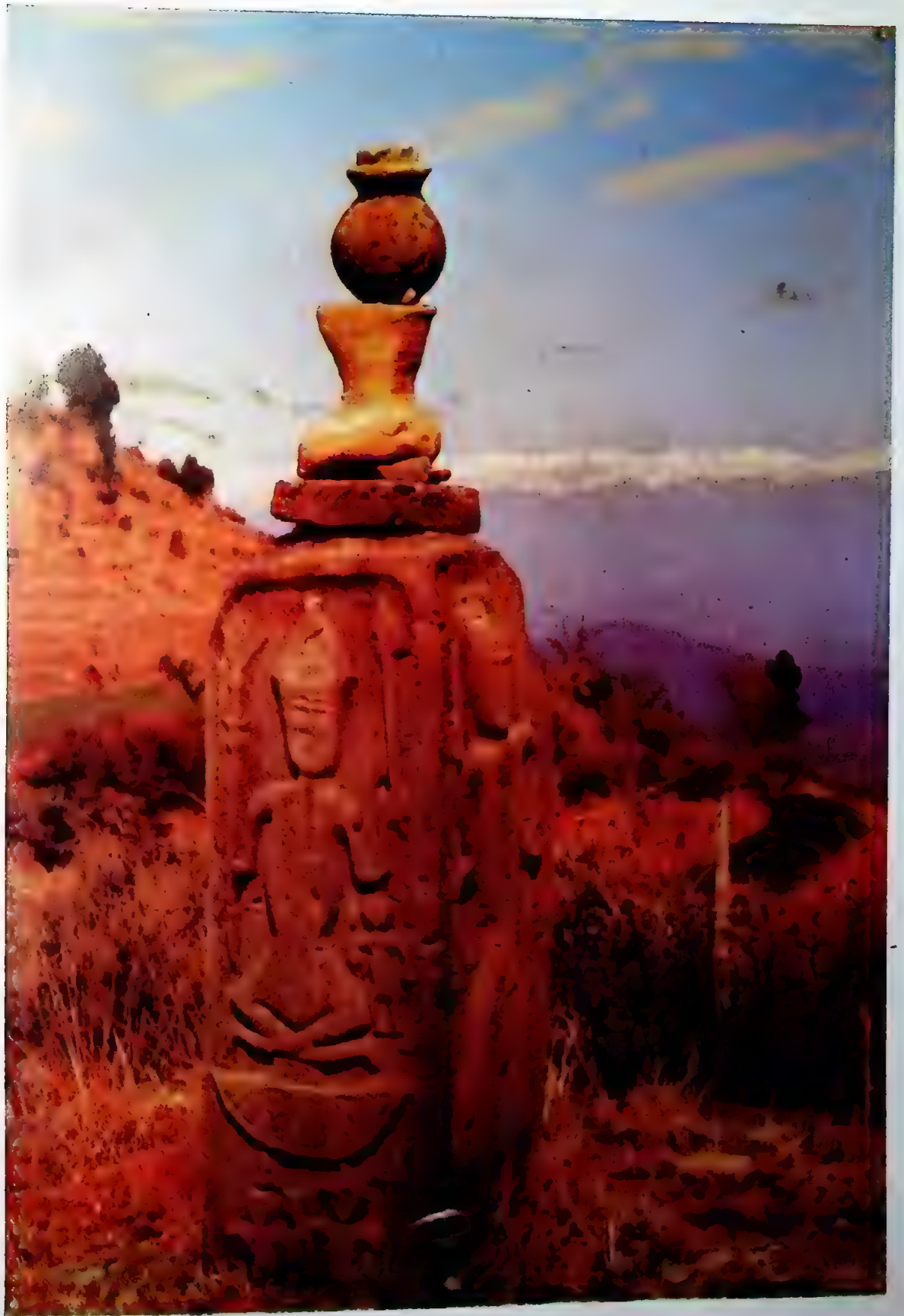
A Holy Shrine of Baba Gulam Shah at Shahdera Thana mandi.



A view of Dami-Dhar Fort. Rajouri.



Rajouri celebration.



Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



Rajouri celebration.



Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



Rajouri celebration.



Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



Sculpture, at Pandhoo Fort Kala kote.



Grave of Mughal Emperor Jahangir at Chingus Surian.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Sculpture, at Pandhoo Fort Kala kote.



Grave of Mughal Emperor Jahangir at Chingus Surian.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Sculpture, at Pandhoo Fort Kala kote.



Grave of Mughal Emperor Jahangir at Chingus Surian.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Sculpture, at Pandhoo Fort Kala kote.



Grave of Mughal Emperor Jahangir at Chingus Surian.



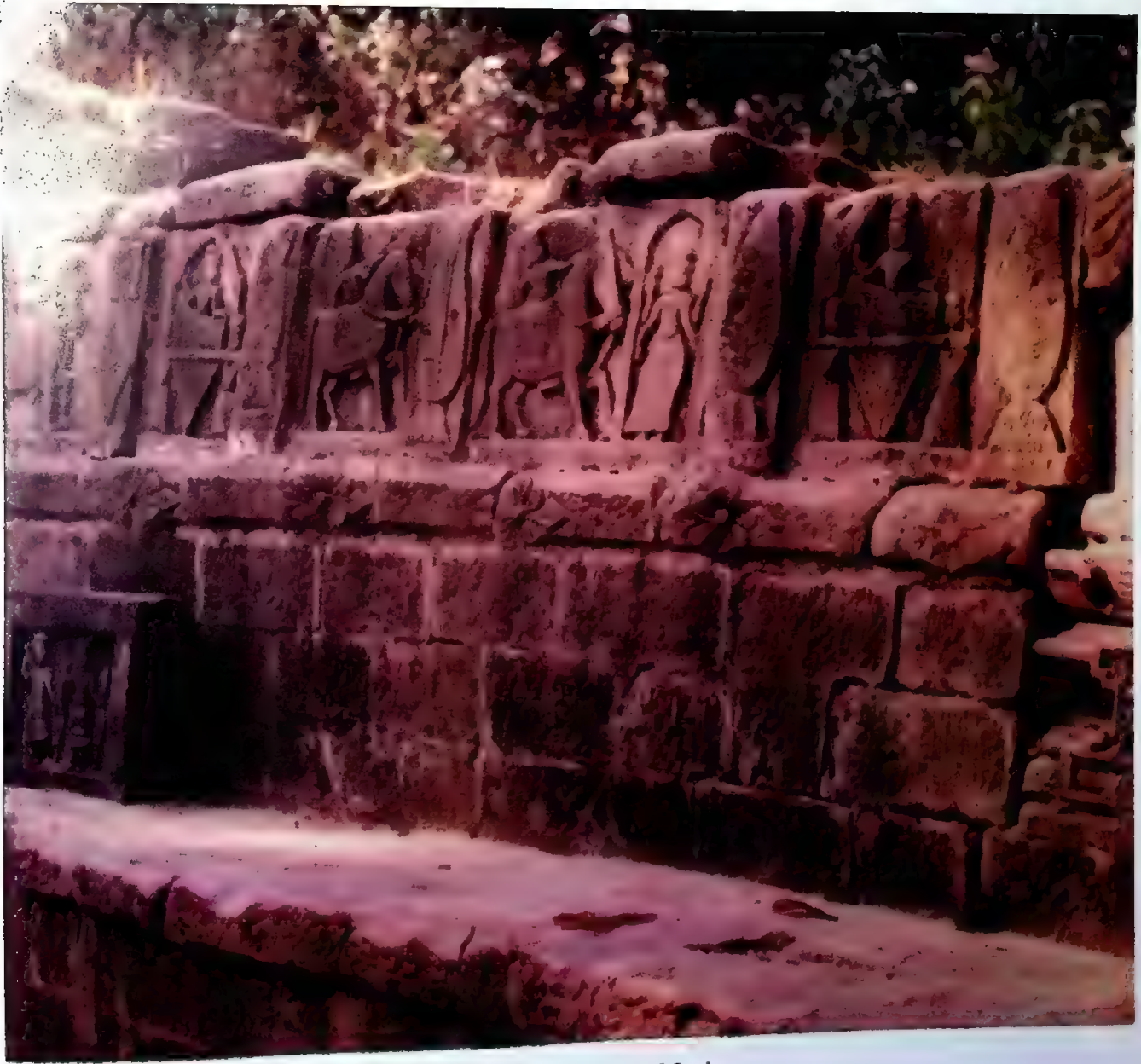
A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Sculpture, at Pandhoo Fort Kala kote.



Grave of Mughal Emperor Jahangir at Chingus Surian.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Old Mosque of Lamberi.



A view of Rajouri fort.



A view of Rajouri fort.



Old Mosque of Lamberi.



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Holy Shrine of Baba Gulam Shah at Shahdera Thana mandi.



Bara Darhi, an old Mughal Rest house at Rajouri.



Old Mosque of Lamberi.



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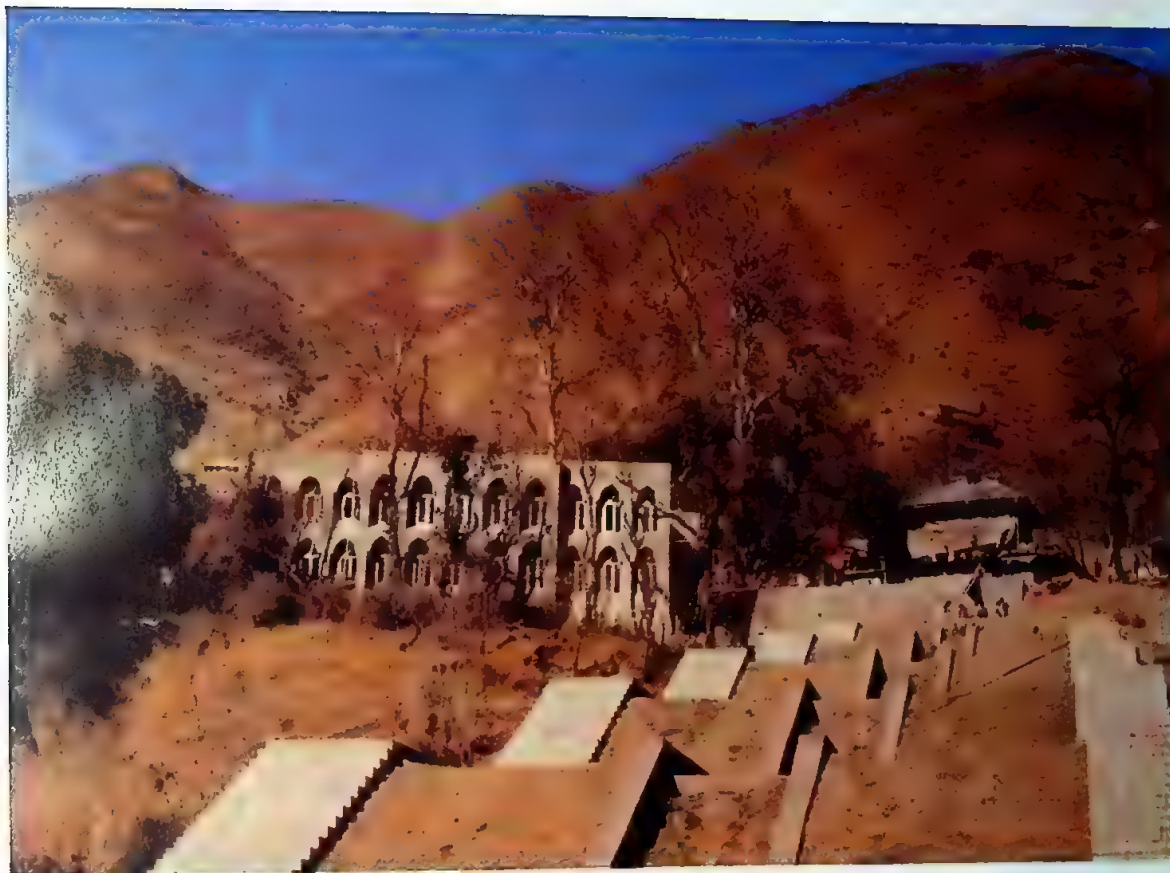
Holy Shrine of Baba Gulam Shah at Shahdera Thana mandi.



Bara Darhi, an old Mughal Rest house at Rajouri.



Old Mosque of Lamheri.



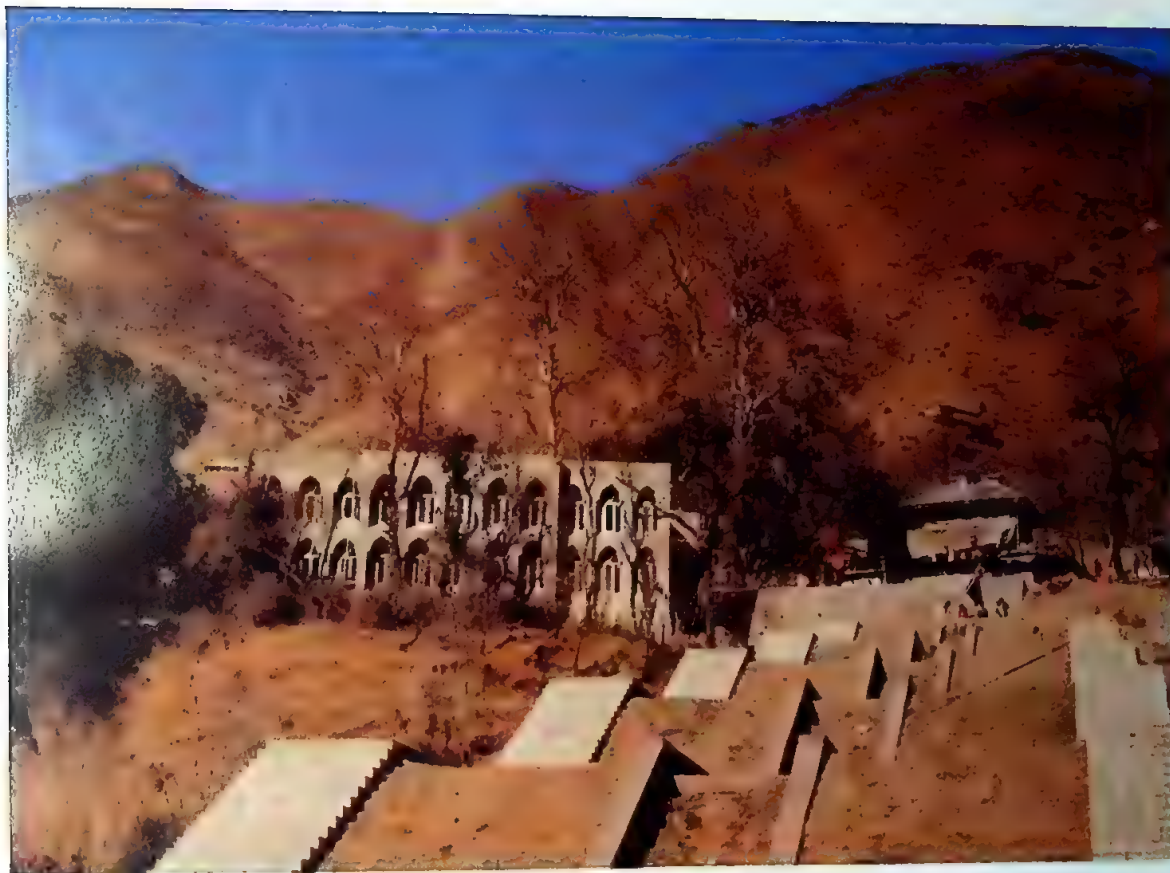
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Old Mosque of Lamberi.



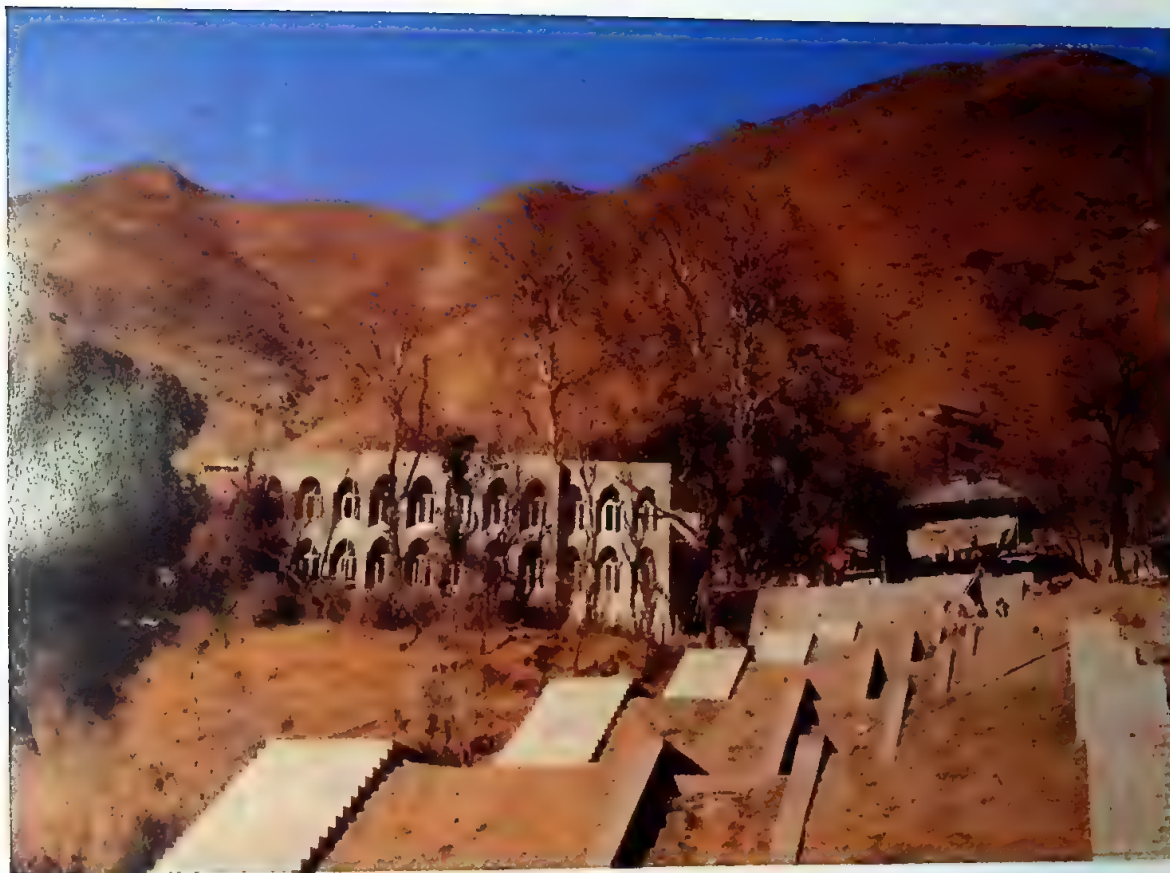
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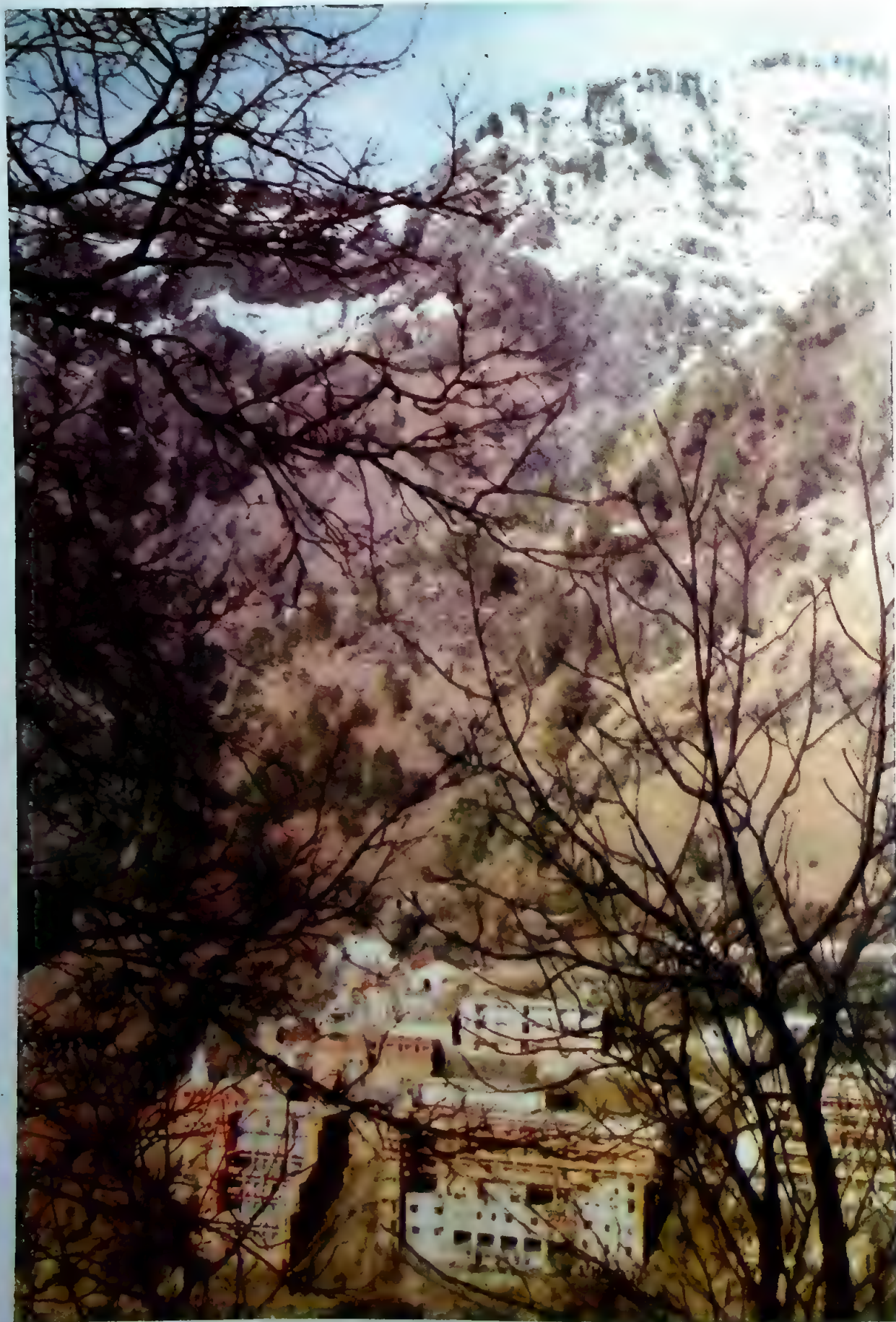
Old Mosque of Lamberi.



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Bara Darhi, an old Mughal Rest house at Rajouri.



A view of Rajouri Town.



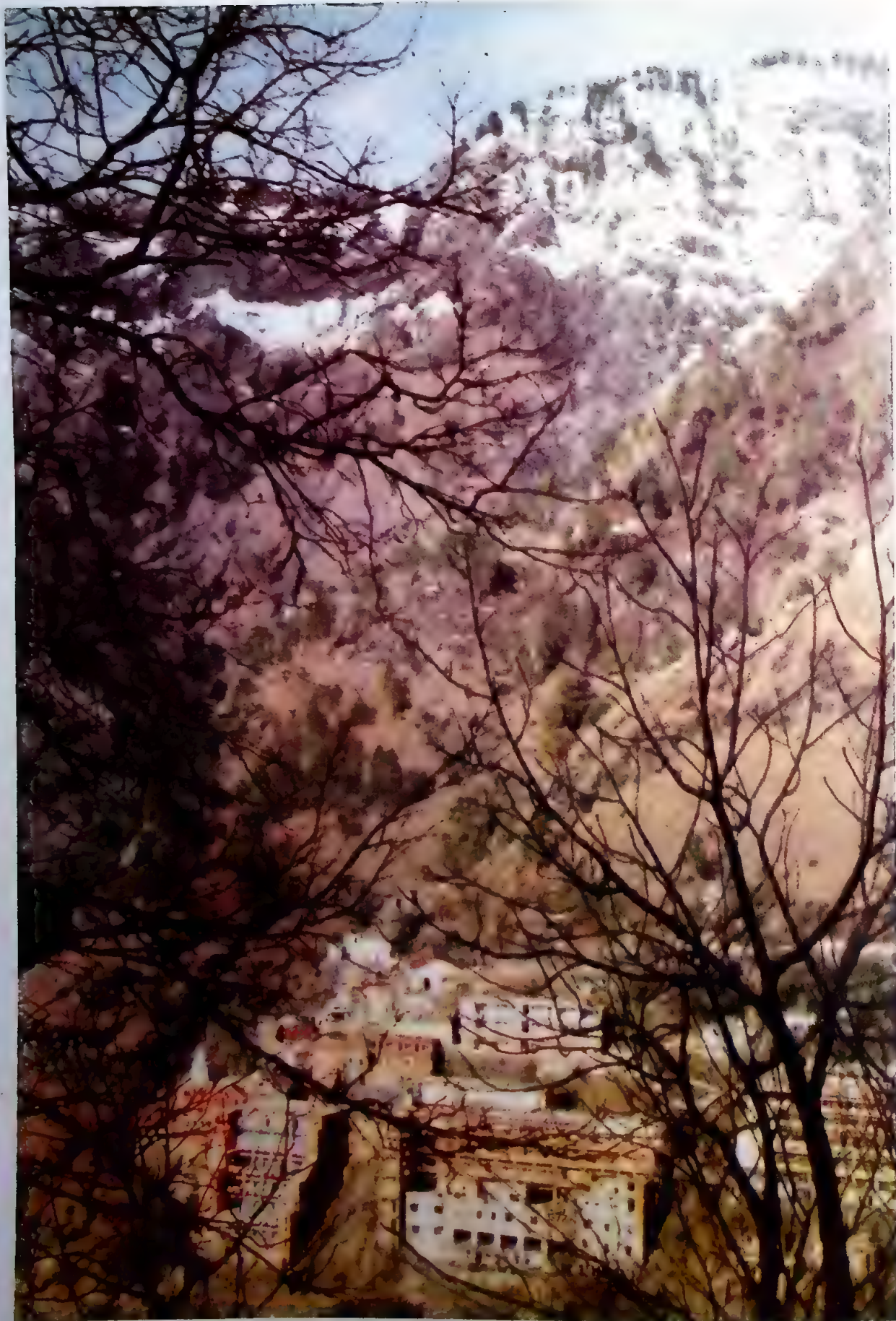
A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



A view of Rajouri Town.



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A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



*A Full View of Mughal Surian Saj.
(Old Mughal Road).*



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



*A Full View of Mughal Surian Saj.
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Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



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A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Old Hindu Temples of Rachwa near Chingus.



*A Full View of Mughal Surian Saj.
(Old Mughal Road).*



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Radhy-Sham Temple at Rajouri.



A Pandov fort near Panjnarah Rajouri..



Mughal Surian Faitha Pur at (Old Mughal Road)



Radhy-Sham Temple at Rajouri.



A Pandov fort near Panjnarah Rajouri..



Mughal Surian Faitha Pur at (Old Mughal Road)



Radhy-Sham Temple at Rajouri.



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Mughal Surian Faitha Pur at (Old Mughal Road)



Radhy-Sham Temple at Rajouri.



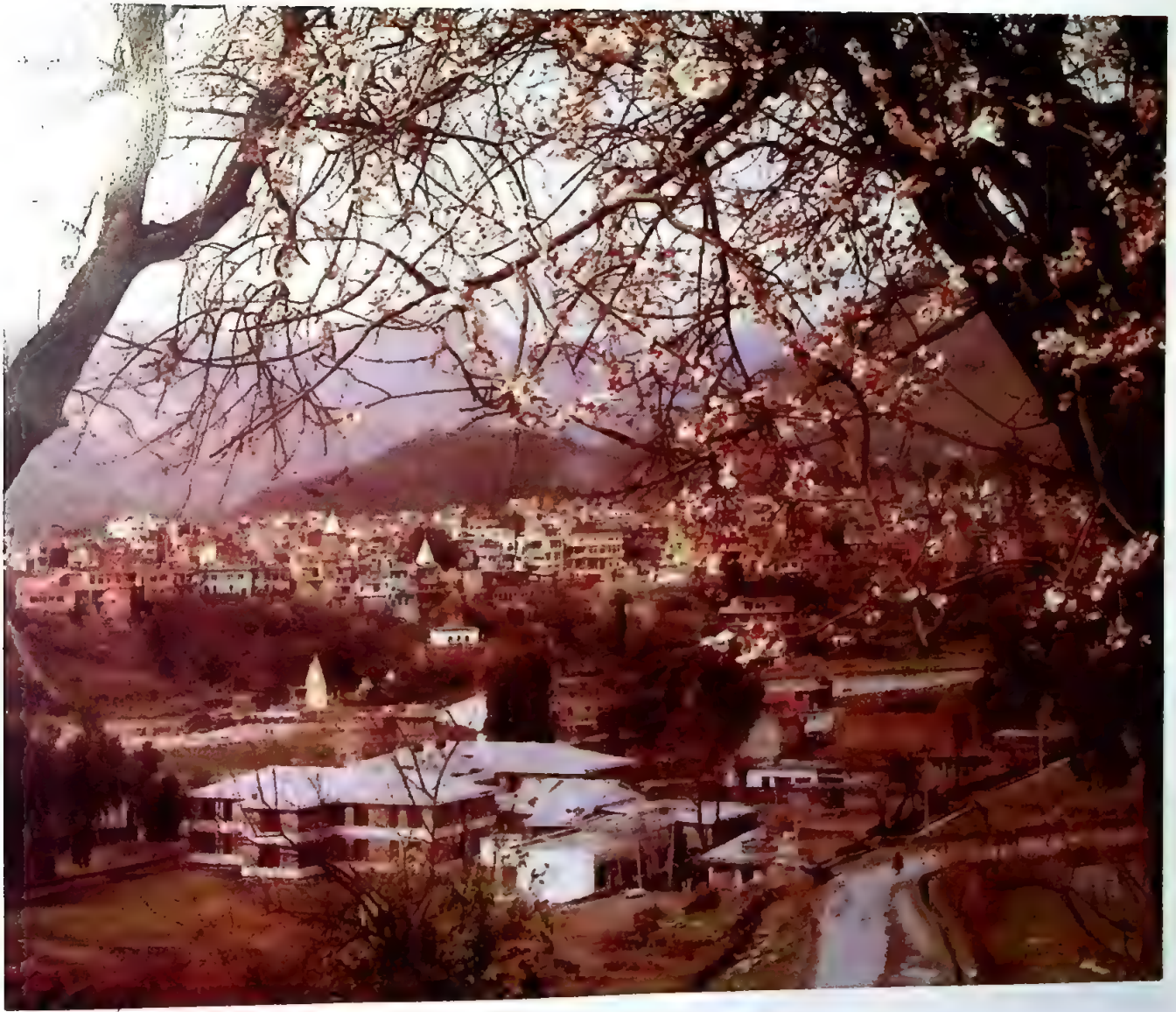
A Pandov fort near Panjnarah Rajouri..



Mughal Surian Faitha Pur at (Old Mughal Road)



In side view of Mughal Surian (Mughal Road near Saj, Thana Mandi).



A view of Rajouri Town.



In side view of Mughal Surian (Mughal Road near Saj, Thana Mandi).



A view of Rajouri Town.



In side view of Mughal Surian (Mughal Road near Saj, Thana Mandi).



A view of Rajouri Town.



In side view of Mughal Surian (Mughal Road near Saj, Thana Mandi).



A view of Rajouri Town.



Nandan Sar Lake in Pir-Ranjel Range.



A view of Thana Mandi.



Nandan Sar Lake in Pir-Ranjel Range.



A view of Thana Mandi.



Nandan Sar Lake in Pir-Ranjel Range.



A view of Thana Mandi.



Rajouri Inder Kote Palace.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Old and new bridge of Rajouri.



Rajouri Inder Kote Palace.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



Old and new bridge of Rajouri.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.



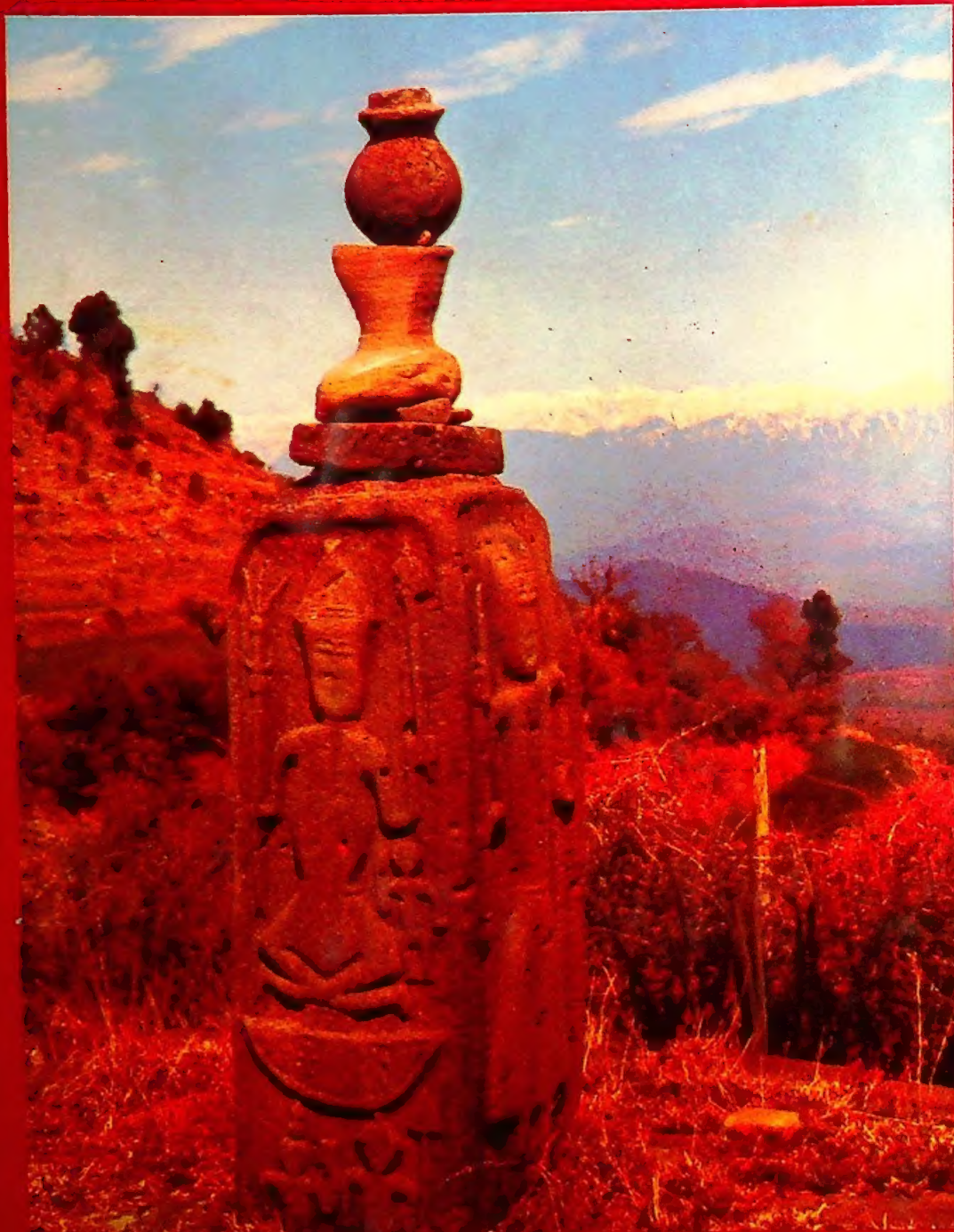
Budhal an old Town of Rajouri.



A view of Chingus Mughal Surian.

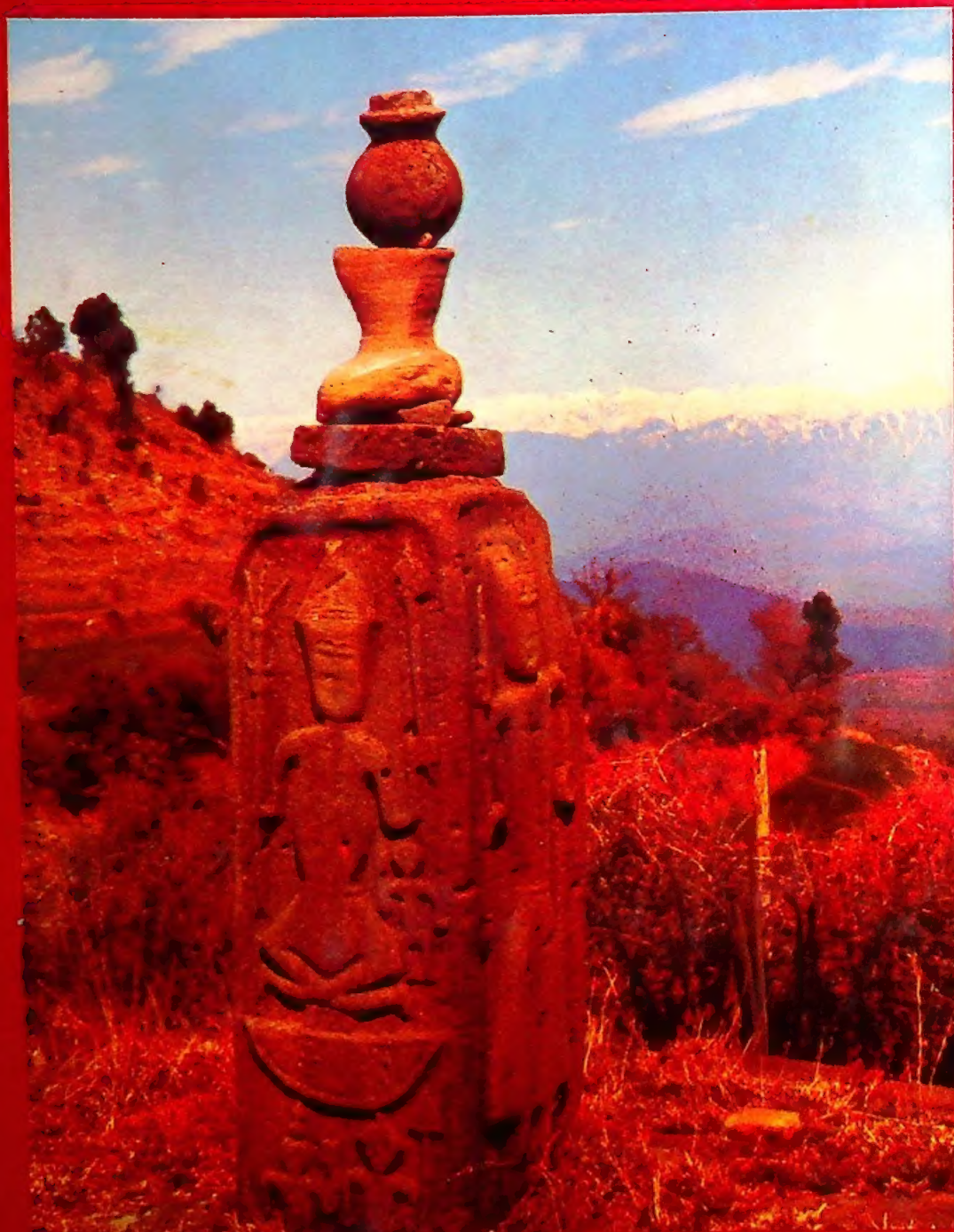


Budhal an old Town of Rajouri.



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